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MORE HARSH WORDS IN DEBATE ON DECISION TO BAR BROOKE

Last-Day-Of-School Atmosphere In House Of Commons

"LYING INSINUATION" WITHDRAWN

London, Dec. 20.

The House of Commons heard a horrifying account of head hunting in Sarawak to-day as a no-holds-barred debate threshed out the reasons why Anthony Brooke, who might have become ruler of the North-west Borneo country, is being barred by the British Government from visiting Sarawak.

A last-day-of-school atm osphere prevailed in the sometimes dignified Assembly, wh ich was about to recess for Christmas, with the peak ren ched when the Colonial Secretary, Mr Arthur Creech Jones withdrew the words "lying insinuation"—his reply at a Conservative taunt—but said vigorously: "I do not withd raw the content of the word."

Before the harsh-words stage was reached, the Labourite, Lieutenant Colonel D. R. Rees-Williams came to the government's defence on the banning of Brooke with the suggestion, regarded by some members as an understatement, that Sarawak "is to some extent a disturbed state."

Mr Creech Jones said that Brookes, who got so far as Hongkong before the Government put up the bars, had "inspired agitation and opposition among the people" to Sarawak's coming under the Union Jack. He said that there was danger of violence breaking out if Brooks turned up in Sarawak.

Conservatives interrupted the Minister and one another to declaim that if Brooke had violated or was suspected of violating any law, he should be brought to trial. Not, as one member charged, held incommunicado in Hongkong at the government's whim.

Otherwise, what was the Empire coming to when a subject of King George was prevented from moving at will from Colony to Colony?

Recalling that Mr Creech Jones, before he became Colonial Secretary, was a fervent critic of Colonial Administration, the Conservative, Sir Ian Fraser, said, "It isn't surprising when a man turns from poacher to gamekeeper that he isn't a success."—Associated Press.

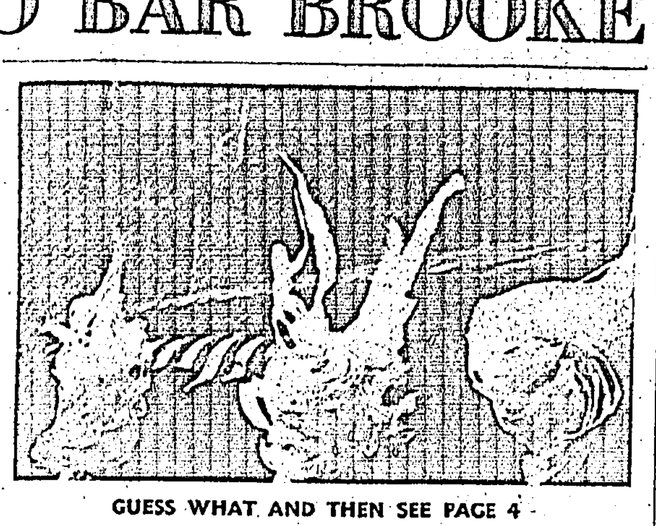
Singapore Announcement

Singapore, Dec. 20.

It was officially announced to-day that the Singapore Government desired to correct a press report that, "in contrast to the Hongkong Government, the Singapore Government will place no restrictions on the activities of Anthony Brooke."

"As already stated, the Singapore Government asked Mr Brooke to give an assurance in writing that he would refrain from making a statement orally or in writing, or indulging in any activity relative to the status of Sarawak or the question of the cession," the statement said.

"Mr Brooke so far has refused to give this assurance. If he gives it he will, on landing at Singapore, be subject to no restrictions other than those to which he has subjected himself in the terms of the assurance."—United Press.



GUESS WHAT AND THEN SEE PAGE 4

FIELD MARSHAL MILCH PLEADS NOT GUILTY

Nuremberg, Dec. 20.

Field Marshal Erhard Milch, former German Under-Secretary for Air, heard with flushed cheeks here to-day a three-count indictment accusing him of inhumanity to war prisoners, use of prisoners for military operations and personal connection with high altitude and freezing tests carried out by Nazi doctors on concentration camp victims.

Standing stiffly to attention in the dock and wearing Luftwaffe uniform, stripped of badges of rank, he uttered an emphatic "not guilty."

The President of the three-man court then fixed the trial for January 2.—Reuter.

HEAVY FIRING THROUGHOUT HANOI

Singapore, Dec. 20.

An Associated Press dispatch from Hanoi, Indo-China, said Viet Namese forces opened heavy firing throughout Hanoi Thursday night, five minutes after the city had been plunged into darkness by the suspension of the electric power service.

An Associated Press Correspondent said that "the Viet Namese began shooting everywhere with field guns, mortars, and machine guns." Immediate French counter act on was expected. The correspondent added that 30,000 armed Viet Namese were concentrated around Hanoi.—Associated Press.

D'Argenlieu Returning

Paris, Dec. 20.

Admiral Thierry D'Argenlieu, French High Commissioner for Indo-China, left by plane to-day to resume his duties in the Far East.—Associated Press.

Apology For House Of Commons Assault

London, Dec. 20.

It was disclosed in Parliamentary papers to-day that the press correspondent concerned in the alleged assault on Mr P. Piratin, Communist Member of Parliament for Mile End, within the precincts of the House of Commons yesterday, is T. D. Lucy.

Lucy's letter of apology to the House, which was read by the Speaker last night, was headed, "Press Association. Press Gallery, House of Commons."—Reuter.

AUSTRALIA TO MAKE TENNIS TOURS

San Francisco, Dec. 20.

Shortly after the Australian Lawn Tennis Association warned the American Davis Cup players Gardner Mulloy, Tom Brown and Billy Talbert to-day that they face possible loss of amateur status if they make the offered tour of Australia from December 23 to January 4 under the auspices of the Melbourne athletic goods firm Alta, the Association announced it was considering sending an Australian team on a world tour in 1947 to compete in all national championships and tournaments, including Forest Hills and Paris.

The Association also approved secondary tours to South Africa and New Zealand.—United Press.

Troopship Leaves Southampton

Southampton, Dec. 20.

The liner, Highland Princess, with 1,300 Army personnel for overseas service, left here for Bombay last night without incident.—Reuter.

Soviet Delegation To Visit Britain

London, Dec. 19.

It was officially announced here this afternoon that Russia has accepted the British invitation to send a Soviet delegation to Britain and that the party is expected to arrive here in February.—Central News.

CANADA BACKS RUSSIA IN ATOMIC PLAN

New York, Dec. 20.

Canada backed Russia to-day in the call for a delay in America's "atom control plan." The move came in the United Nations Atom Energy Commission as a sequel to reported differences between the United States and Canada over Mr Bernard Baruch's demand for an immediate decision on the principle of his plan.

With only 11 days in hand to complete their report to the Security Council—due by the end of the year—members of the Commission were asked by Mr Andrei Gromyko for six or seven days' postponement in considering the American proposals—a request which received immediate support from Canada's General Andrew McNaughton.

(The American proposals embody the principles of the American plan for the control of atomic energy, including international inspection and the vital clause prohibiting veto power being used by any nation to avoid punishment for violation of control).

Mr Gromyko declared that the proposals should be submitted to the most searching analysis to ascertain whether they correspond to the recently approved General Assembly disarmament resolution.

M. Gromyko said: "I am sorry that a postponement might cause certain inconvenience to members of the Commission, since judging by certain declarations this would interfere with their Christmas plans. Nevertheless, I submit it might be better to postpone consideration and action on these proposals for six or seven days."

General McNaughton, agreeing with M. Gromyko, submitted an amendment providing that after the Commission approved and accepted the principles on which the American findings and recommendations were based they be sent to the commission's working committee to include them in the draft report to be sent to the Security Council, after having confirmed they were consistent with the wording of the Assembly disarmament resolution.

Canada's Memorandum

General McNaughton added that Canada had prepared a memorandum for the working committee's consideration, which embodies a number of amendments to America's proposals.

Mr Baruch (American) accepted the Canadian amendment with the understanding that it supported the principles of his own recommendation.

Britain's Sir Alexander Cadogan endorsed Mr Baruch's statement.

M. Parodi, also supporting the Canadian amendment, said that the

(Continued on Page 8)

Russia Agrees To Balkans Investigation

Lake Success, Dec. 19.

The United Nations Security Council to-day voted to send an 11-member investigating commission to the Balkans to study border incidents between Greece and her three northern neighbours. The Commission received authority to roam all over the four disputed nations after the Soviet's Andrei Gromyko suddenly dropped the fight to keep a board of inquiry out of the interior of Soviet-dominated Bulgaria, Yugo-Slavia and Albania.

The decision marked the first major action of the Security Council and the first time that the United Nations has ordered agents into individual countries involved in the dispute.

The board of inquiry was proposed by the United States and M. Gromyko countered with an amendment to permit the board to roam all over Greece, but only to the border areas of the other three countries. This attracted a storm of protests.

M. Gromyko offered to confine investigation to the border areas of all countries, but the United States, Britain and some small countries were not satisfied.

The Soviet delegate with full veto power, was silent for a considerable time. He then leaned forward and said, "I shall not insist upon my amendment."

The Council then approved the resolution 9-0, with Britain and Egypt abstaining. The Board of Inquiry was originally proposed to comprise seven members—the Big Five plus Poland and Brazil.—United Press.

Concentration of Troops In Scoplje Claimed In Athens

AIDING GREEK INSURGENTS

Athens, Dec. 20.

Allied military authorities have received a highly confidential report that large numbers of Yugo-Slav troops have been concentrated in the Scoplje area of Yugo-Slavia.

An Allied diplomat said on Friday that the concentration was probably connected with the Greek complaint against its Balkan neighbours before the United Nations Security Council. The confidential report said that heavy movements of ammunition trains southward through Scoplje to Devdelija immediately north of the Greek border on the Vardar River, had been noted for three weeks. It added that normal highway traffic from Scoplje to Devdelija had been stopped since December 6.

The report said: "It is reasonable to believe that the highway is now being used for military traffic."

Scoplje and Bitolje are "completely overrun with troops who are occupying houses and buildings for billets," it declared, and noted a "large number of Greeks out of military formation." Some of those Greeks, the report said, were wearing American Army uniforms obtained from UNRRA, and were believed to be refugees.

Yugo-Slav officers in Scoplje and Bitolje were not wearing insignias of rank, the report said.

The report also noted what it called an abnormal number of medical and hospital units in Scoplje and referred to scores of persons wearing Red Cross arm bands.

Another report said that approximately 3,500 Greeks wearing British or American battle dress had passed through Belonane since November 26, that they were armed, and, in groups of 200 to 400, had been sent into Greece.

It was mentioned too that at what it called a huge ammunition dump near Scoplje, men "were working 24 hours a day."

Another highly confidential report from the capital of a leading Allied nation said that its intelligence service had been informed that the Yugo-Slavs had promised to send 10,000 to 15,000 men to relieve the Greek rebels, but that no Yugo-Slav soldiers were believed to be in Greece at the moment. The report expressed the opinion that all the activity was designed to create a

(Continued on Page 8)

STOP PRESS

SHIP'S OFFICER DECORATED

Sub-Lieut R. G. Stanton, RNR, who was First Lieutenant of the Indo-China SN Company's Liwo, which was sunk in an action with Japanese warships near the Banka Straits, has been awarded the DSO, it was announced from London to-day. Mr Stanton is at present serving as Chief Officer of the Wingsang, which is now on the Hongkong-Shanghai run.

Machine-Gunning Of Australian Nurses by Japanese

Tokyo, Dec. 20.

After voluntarily surrendering to the Japanese 23 Australian nurses were ordered, at the point of the bayonet, to march into the sea at Banka Island, opposite Sumatra, and then were machine-gunned, a survivor, Capt. Vivian Bullwinkel, of the Australian Nurse Corps, told the War Crimes Court here to-day.

Capt Bullwinkel said they were captured after Japanese planes had bombed and strafed a ship carrying 65 nurses and 200 other women from Singapore. Survivors made the Banka beach and on February 15, 1942, were joined by 50 British survivors from another ship. All decided to surrender to the Japanese after they had found out that the Japanese controlled the island.

A Japanese officer and 15 soldiers marched 50 men around a hill and bayoneted them, Capt Bullwinkel testified. Then the Japanese ordered the women into the sea.

"I saw the girls fall one after another. Then I was hit. A bullet struck me in the back and passed through me."

Capt Bullwinkel said the waves washed her ashore and when she revived the Japanese had gone, leaving on shore about 50 mutilated and bayoneted bodies.

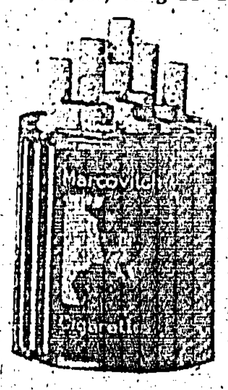
Capt Bullwinkel found another survivor and decided to surrender again. This time the Japanese sent her to Sumatra and put her into a camp where 22 prisoners died within a month. Then she was transferred to the Banka prisoner camp where 150 out of 450 prisoners died within six months.

"We spent our time looking after the sick and digging graves. About 75 per cent of those in the camp was always sick."

V-J Day came to another camp in Sumatra to where Capt Bullwinkel had been retransferred following a journey during which 12 nurses died aboard a train.

On August 24, 1940, the camp commander announced the Japanese surrender, and on the following day the Japanese brought medicines and food, including "tins and tins of butter."—United Press.

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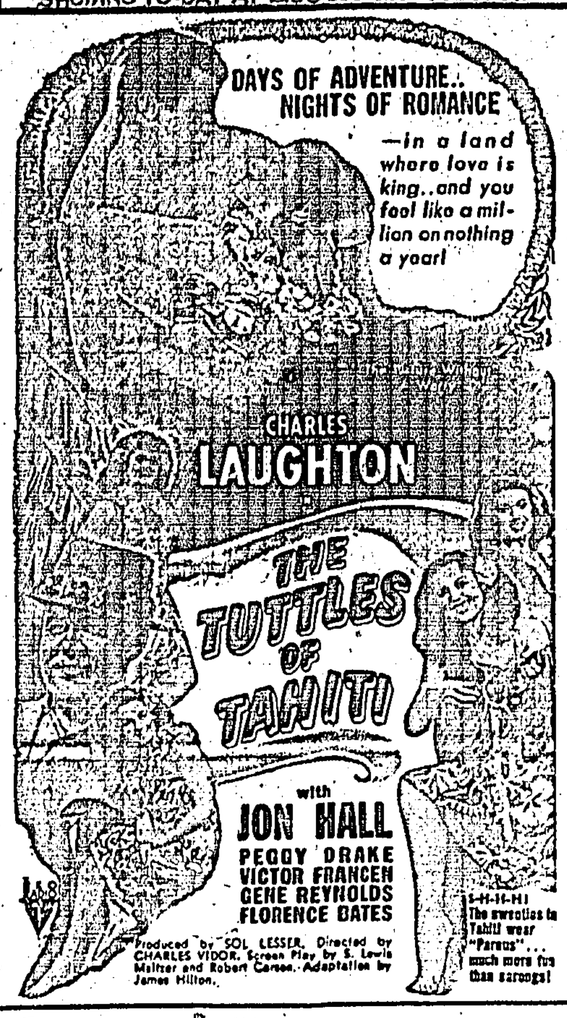
Growing Children Need KLIM!



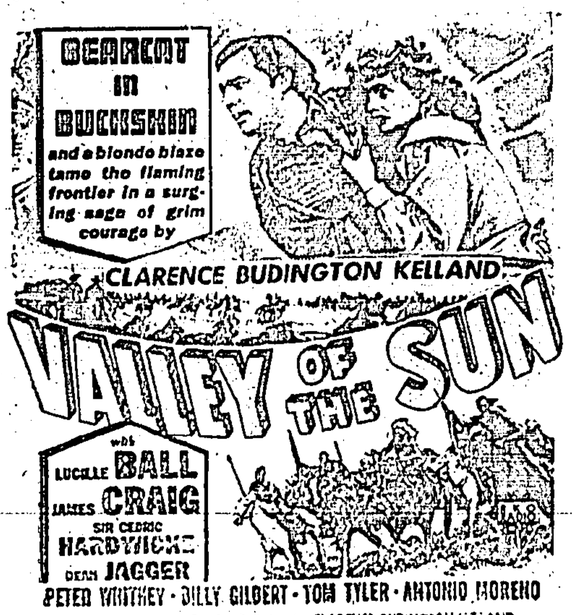
says ELSIE the BORDEN COW

FIRST IN PREFERENCE THE WORLD OVER

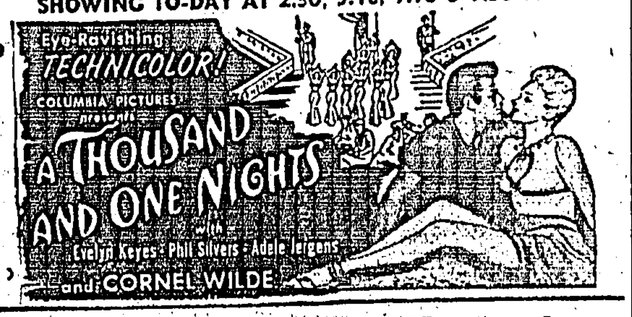
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FILMS & PLAYERS



LINDA DARNELL, although busy playing the name part in the film version of "Forever Amber," found time to visit the Big Bear resort in the Sierras to choose her Christmas tree. "Amber", which has been in production nearly a year, is expected to be completed in February.

Movie Greats Of Twenty Years Ago

One of the most fascinating and romantic things about the film business is that the actors therein, like their honourable forebears of the stage, seldom leave the profession for anything or anybody short of the "Grim Reaper."

As a matter of fact, the number of old-timers still kicking around on movie sets occasioned much surprise among researchers who lately have been engaged in digging up hoary data.

With no little astonishment, these busy gentlemen report that most of the players starred, featured or even merely mentioned in the casts of late silents and early talkies about 20 years ago are still either working in pictures or are willing and waiting to do so.

And, surprisingly enough, some of them have neither lost nor tarnished their glitter. For example, there are Warner Baxter, Richard Dix, Ronald Colman, William Powell, Greta Garbo, Herbert Marshall, Myrna Loy, H. B. Warner, Lionel Barrymore, Irene Rich, Virginia Bruce, Charles Chaplin, Dolores Del Rio, Lillian Gish, Ann Harding, Mary Astor, Creighton Hale, Jack Holt, Walter Pidgeon, Basil Rathbone, Anna Q. Nilsson and Jack Mulhall, all of whom fought through the coming of sound to equal if not brighter fame.

Other Great Names

Then, there's Al Jolson, first great singer of the talkie era and famous for his "Mammy" songs. Jolson is still going strong. Recently he appeared in "Rhapsody in Blue".

Monte Blue, one of the silent picture greats, hasn't been off the screen for more than a month at a time. He recently completed an important role in "Cheyenne" with Dennis Morgan, Jane Wyman and Janis Paige.

The late John Barrymore, who figured in the introduction of talking pictures because it was his "Don Juan" which introduced Vitaphone, remained a busy actor to the time of his death. And his leading lady in the picture, Mary Astor, is yet active and successful, and beautiful as a featured player and sometimes as a star.

As for the rest, and nobody knows exactly how many there are, they're still in pictures—people such as William Desmond, who is now working as an extra player in "Life With Father;" and like Harry Carey, who will leave his prosperous ranch readily to do a spot of acting.

Britain Sets Up Film Academy

A representative cross-section of Britain's film-makers met recently and decided to set up a British Film Academy. The initial step was to appoint the following temporary committee—Anthony Asquith, Michael Balcon, Sir Alexander Korda, Frank Launder, David Lean, Michael Powell, Emeric Pressburger, Carol Reed and Paul Rotha.

This temporary body was given powers to draft a constitution, to make recommendations regarding the finances of the Academy, and to submit for election to the Academy a preliminary list of individuals who, in the opinion of the committee, have contributed outstanding creative work towards the furtherment of British films. In this connection, the committee was asked to pay particular regard to the pioneers of the industry in its early days.

It was unanimously agreed by the meeting that the Academy should be non-factional and non-political and its primary aim should be to enhance the prestige of Britain's film industry.

Among the Academy's functions are likely to be the aim to bring about closer co-operation between the creative workers in films of all categories (feature, documentary, educational, cartoon and newsreel), the provision of a professional group capable of representing British filmmakers at International Festivals and Conferences, and the giving of awards for work of artistic merit in the production of British films. The Academy may also undertake research, compile statistical information and issue publications.

There are many excellent organisations representing sectional interests in British films, but this, it is claimed, is the first body to be set up covering the whole field of creative endeavour in British film production.

FIRST NIGHTS ARE OUT

THE world premiere, movie-town's most treasured institution, its pride and joy from a social and publicity standpoint, seems headed for the rocks to-day.

Virtually every major studio in Hollywood admits that the premiere has outlived its usefulness—that it is now a stale and outmoded stunt that draws little more than apathetic yawns from stars and other top personalities on whose attendance these shindigs depend for their success.

"We've killed off the premiere ourselves," declared one veteran studio head. "And simply because we have used bad judgment in staging them. After the war's end we poured them on too fast and too thick. This year there have been no fewer than ten gala premieres. There never should be more than two or three in a single year. You can't blame the stars for not wanting to turn out so often."

LUBITSCH COMEDY

"The first thirty years are the hardest," says Ernst Lubitsch—but he smiles as he says it.

Master of the art of sophisticated comedy, originator of "the Lubitsch touch," and the director who, it is claimed, has done more than any other to advance motion pictures as an art, as well as entertainment, this alert, energetic man is celebrating his 30th anniversary in films.

It is an event worth commemorating, when a man not only rounds out thirty years in one profession, but remains tops in that profession.

His first Technicolour picture, the romantic comedy, "Heaven Can Wait," which features Gene Tierney and Don Ameche, is now showing at the Queen's.

In speaking of the picture, Lubitsch communicates the feeling that it was a picture worth making, one that gave him much enjoyment. It is a gay, amusing story of New York in the gay old days, the '90's.

"The leading role, played by Ameche, a man who had always lived for the charm of living," Lubitsch explains, "A type that I admire. I want to remember him, he had so much fun out of life."

COLMAN AND DIETRICH IN "KISMET"

There's fun and drama and spectacle at the King's Theatre tomorrow, for "Kismet" will be shown. It is the familiar story of the beggar-magician, who plots many things and consorts as facilely with royalty as he does with his fellow-beggars. It's the story of his beautiful daughter whom he wants to marry off to royalty and the scheme he has for accomplishing this—all the time not knowing that his daughter loves and is loved by the Caliph himself!

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has filmed "Kismet" in Technicolour and with a superb cast headed by Ronald Colman and Marlene Dietrich, as the beggar-rascal and queen of the dancing girls. In their support are such outstanding players as James Craig, who plays the Caliph Edward Arnold, as the Grand Vizier; Hugh Herbert, as one of the beggar's henchmen, and a newcomer, Joy Ann Page, who does an outstanding piece of acting in this, only her second, film appearance.

CINEMA GUIDE

SHOWING TO-DAY
KING'S—The Chocolate Soldier
QUEEN'S—Heaven Can Wait
ALHAMBRA—Valley of the Sun.

NEXT CHANGE
KING'S—Kismet (To-morrow)
QUEEN'S—Sudan (Tuesday)
ALHAMBRA—Duffy's Tavern (Tuesday)

THE WORRIES OF MONTEZ

Maria Montez believes she has something that no other stars can include in their income tax reports. She has a professional worrier, to do all her worrying. He is Dr S. R. Mitchneck, language coach, who speaks 12 tongues fluently and understands 13 more.

Before Dr Mitchneck took on the burden of Miss Montez's multiple worries, she worried constantly about her struggles with the English tongue. Thus worrying, she often "blew" her lines, which meant many retakes, and retakes consume a lot of film, and film is hard to get these days. It costs a lot of money, too.

When Miss Montez was informed that she was to be co-starred in "Sudan" with Turhan Bey and Jon Hall, she demanded a good English coach to do her worrying about her speech.

Dr Mitchneck was hired to relieve her of her worries.

"Sudan" comes to the Queen's on Tuesday.



YOU will see her this Christmas. Who is she? Her name is Larissa Anders, and she will entertain at dinner dances at the Hongkong and Peninsula Hotels during the holiday season.

TO-DAY ONLY — KINGS — At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

NELSON EDDY in
"CHOCOLATE SOLDIER"
With RISE STEVENS • NIGEL BRUCE
FLORENCE BATES • DOROTHY GILMORE
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
— TO-MORROW —

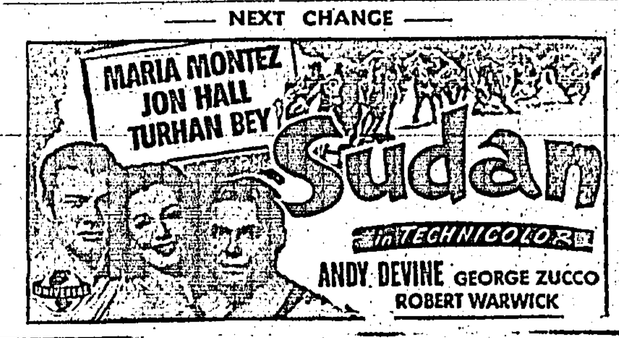


SHOWING TO-DAY — QUEEN'S — At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



— TO-MORROW MORNING —
AT 11.30 A.M.
"DESTINATION TOKYO"
with Cary GRANT • John GARFIELD

— NEXT CHANGE —



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Starring: BURGESS MERDITH as ERNIE PYLE
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

NEXT CHANCE: "BEST FOOT FORWARD"

• THE WORLD OF WOMEN •

CULTIVATE a 'HEALTH SENSE'



HOW NOT TO STAND

By PRUNELLA STACK
(Lady David Douglas-Hamilton)
Director of the Women's League of Health and Beauty

TRUE health demands a harmony of mind, body and spirit. This, in its turn, entails a well-balanced life, freedom for self-development and sensible daily habits. None of these is easy to achieve under modern civilised conditions. But where there is a will there is a way.

The whole trend of enlightened modern medicine to-day is towards a positive health policy. It aims at the constructive cultivation of health rather than the mere negative combatting of disease.

The success of this "positive health policy" depends on a number of factors. Among the most important are the provision of an adequate number of Health Centres; better facilities for sport and recreation of all kinds throughout the country; more playing fields, swimming baths, gymnasia and so on.

HUMAN FACTOR

BUT the most vital element of all is the human factor. Until the ordinary man or woman becomes truly health conscious—that is, develops a "health sense" which relies, to keep fit, not on patent medicines but on the latent powers of a well-trained and co-ordinated physique—a truly healthy nation will never be achieved.

Many of us to-day are inclined to be jaded, depressed and continually tired. This is the very natural result of the strain of the war years, and the disappointment when peace failed to bring plenty and a respite from difficulties and restrictions. But such depression is intensified if we adopt a negative rather than a positive attitude to life.

Mind and body are so closely inter-related that a cheerful outlook is essential for permanent good health. The cultivation of the right daily habits can encourage such an outlook and can become a tonic which gives an added interest and develops an increased sense of well-being and happiness. Effort is needed, of course, but effort which is well worth while in that it brings about a reward in improved health and beauty.

GOOD POSTURE

ONE of the most important of these daily habits which we should strive to attain is good posture. Unfortunately modern urban life militates against its development. Compare the artificial conditions under which we live with the freedom of man in his natural state. Picture the discomfiture of an African native if he were called upon suddenly to breathe the smoky fog of our cities, compress his feet into tight shoes, crouch all day at a desk.

Yet, in spite of unfavourable conditions, right posture can be taught and bad posture altered, even late in life, by the formation of correct daily habits. And children, whose grace is a natural heritage which should never be allowed to deteriorate, can be prevented from falling into the habits of faulty posture which will later show themselves in round shoulders, pigeon chest, flat feet and their attendant ills.

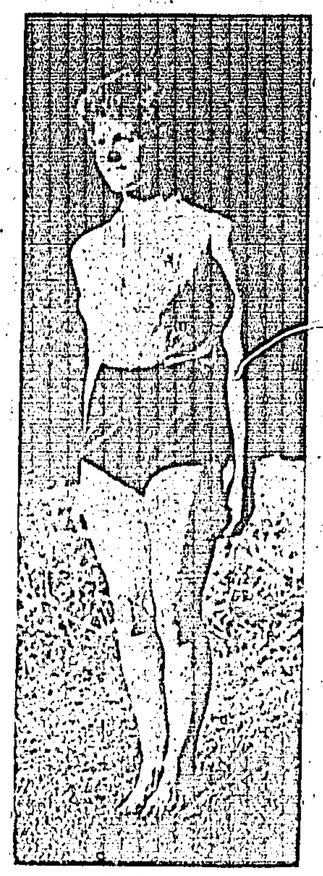
DAILY PRACTICE

BELOW is advice on how to stand correctly. This should be practised every day until it becomes second nature. Waiting for the bus or queueing for the day's shopping are good opportunities.

Conscious daily correction is the only sure way to improve posture, and at first it does require self-discipline and determination. The best way is to try to remember it all through the day, and to pull oneself up whenever one finds a tendency to slouch or flop. At first, to stand correctly will seem a strain and will appear to be tiring, but if the length of practice each day is gradually increased it will finally become a habit and will require no effort of will. The body will have got the "feel" of correct posture, and an important step along the road to fitness and a most valuable "healthy habit" will have been attained.

HOW TO STAND CORRECTLY

START at the foundation. First study the photographs shown with this; then stand before a mirror with no shoes on and observe your feet. Place them together and have the weight evenly divided between them over the broadest part of the foot. Next observe your knees. They should look straight forward, not towards each other, and the calves of the legs should meet. If you have a tendency towards bandy legs practise pulling your knees outwards and pressing your calves together. The muscles of the leg and foot must become trained to this correct position. This can only be done by daily practice.



HOW TO STAND

Next tackle the hip region—the most important centre of control and balance in the body. The "tummy" should be slightly drawn in, and the "tail" tucked under. Now lift the ribs out of the waist-line, which gives a feeling of poise to the whole body. Next flatten the shoulder-blades, pulling them down and towards each other. And finally stretch the back of the neck and feel as though the crown of the head were being pulled up to the ceiling by an invisible thread attached there. Hitch your head—and the thoughts which it contains—to an imaginary star, and stride forth to meet the day's difficulties with renewed confidence and exhilaration.

AMERICAN GIRLS ARE ALL ALIKE

By Screen Star

IDA LUPINO

All American girls, I once thought, are as alike as two beans in a pod. They must all be curvesome, bright-eyed, full-lipped, and as pretty as a movie star.

That was more than 10 years ago, when I was still in England. Then I came to America—specifically to Hollywood—to see for myself, among other things, whether it was true that every girl in America looked like every other girl in America. The fact that I was clutching a fat movie contract in my trembling hands was only incidental.

And so help me! It was true.

• • •

What's more, a few months later, I looked in my mirror more closely than usual one gray morning and made the disconcerting discovery that I had become what is cheerily known as "the typical American girl."

I had conformed. I guess it was inevitable.

The motion picture is a wonderful thing. Honestly it is. But I point an accusing finger (with red polish on the nail, of course) at the films for having made me and every other girl in America—either on or off screen—fit the cinema standard of what an American girl is like.

I applaud the standard all right, but I deplore the lack of individuality. And I don't blame the movies entirely. It is the copying trait of the girls who sit in the movie theatres that leads them to do their hair like Ann Sheridan, paint their lips like Joan Crawford, and acquire the mannerisms of Bette Davis.

• • •

The influence of the films under the watchful eye of the censors has been great and, for the most part, good. That is why I foresee the tragedy of a race of attractive, intelligent women moulding into one glamorous pattern that ought to be broken by the individualistic expression that actually exists in American women.

Furthermore, with the far-reaching influence of the pictures, which are shown in virtually every country in the world, there looms the frightening possibility that some day, women throughout the world will look, think, and act alike.

That is one reason I make every effort to vary my screen roles. Recently I appeared in a period picture as Emily Bronte in "Devotion." Then I was a night club singer in "The Man I Love," and currently I am a dowdy mountain girl in "Deep Valley." In between, to be sure, I've played roles in which I conformed to the accepted impression of the American movie star.

Well, now, if you'll excuse me, I'll slip into my Lana Turner frock and into my Myrna Loy slippers, fix my hair in an Ingrid Bergman coiffure—and become Ida Lupino on the screen.—Associated Press.

SCARF FOR RIGHT-MINDED LITTLE GIRLS

Little girls in Britain have had a scarf created entirely for them this Christmas. On a white square with a border of bright blue or scarlet are tumbling all the things that children play with—blocks and alphabets and numbers; and interspersed with these designs, children are depicted—running, riding bicycles, rolling hoops, bouncing big balloons along an imaginary street filled with tempting shops.

Called "Les Gosses"—or, to put it in colloquial English—"The Kids"—this scarf should make an appeal to all right-minded little girls. On the other hand, there will doubtless be the occasional small girl who is born to be a dramatic critic, like the child who, being offered recently one of these scarves, said scathingly. "I haven't got a bicycle and I think hoops are silly." However, her mother bought it for herself and reports that her own contemporaries think it charming.

You're slipping if

YOU SAY TO YOUR CHILDREN. Mother knows best
Stop asking questions
Because I tell you....Ask Daddy....You'll know when you're older....You treat this house like a hotel.

YOU SAY TO YOUR HUSBAND.. You're late....You weren't like this when we first married.... For heaven's sake put that paper down..
It's such a fag getting into evening dress....
Don't mind me. I wish you wouldn't sit there keeping calm.

YOU SAY TO YOUR BOSS
I was held up in a traffic jam....I couldn't care less.... It's not my job to do that.

ANYONE SAYS TO YOU
..I've *always* liked you in that.. ..Won't you miss your nap?.... You do remind me of my mother. ..Black is so slimming.....That does look comfortable....You *must* remember Clara Bow?

YOU SAY TO YOUR BOY FRIEND....
I can't think what you see in Nina....I had to phone to find out how you were....Haven't you noticed my new dress?

Groom The "Also Rans"

NO new coat for you? Pep up the old one by giving it some extra grooming.

Have it cleaned if you didn't put it away already cleaned; or clean it yourself, removing greasy marks—from the inside of the collar in particular—with tetrachloride.

o

PRESS it well under a damp cloth. It's worth undoing the lining at the bottom so that you can press straight on to the wrong side of the material. Give particular attention to pressing the elbows. They may be a bit baggy and shiny.

Look at the lining. Take it up if it has dropped. Turn the sleeves inside out to see if bracelets or watches have torn their lining, and strengthen the armhole stitching.

o

IF there are any buttons missing, buy a new set. They can do a lot towards making last year's coat look different.

Frayed edges down the front or round the cuffs can be bound with velvet, braid or fur fabric.

Always put your coat on a hanger when at home. Hanging it up by the loop pulls it out of shape.

Don't put your coat away in a cupboard immediately you take it off. Give it a chance to air.

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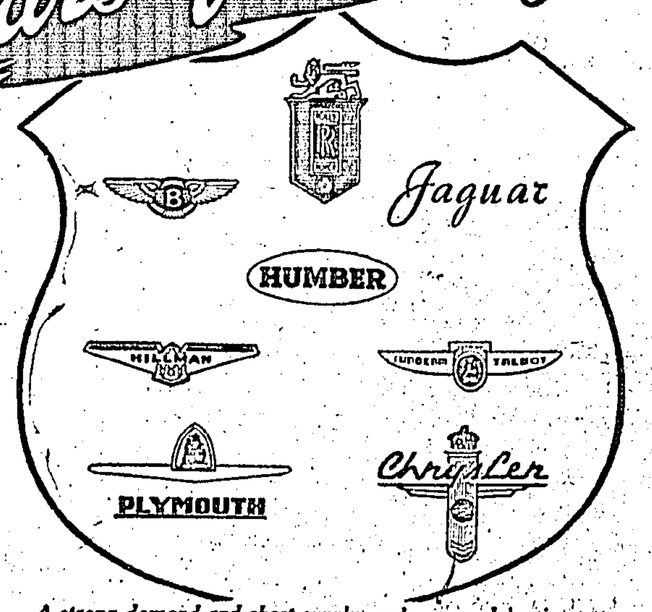
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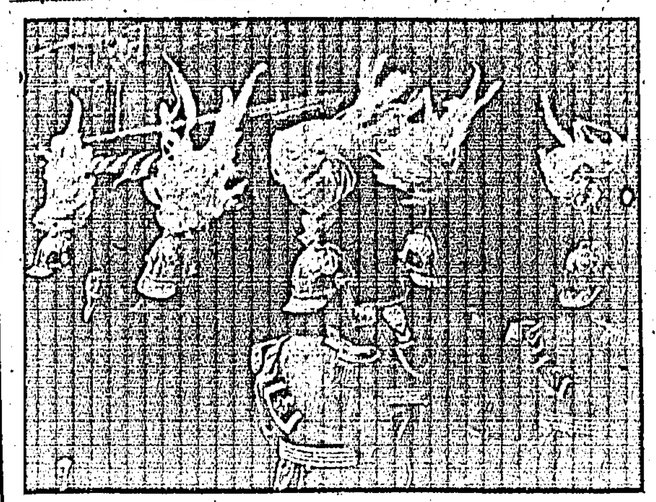
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SPARE MOMENTS PAGE



The wind plays tricks with the plumed helmets of some of the Gentlemen at Arms during the Lord Mayor's Show.

I've fallen in love with an essayist

BOOKS by JOHN BETJEMAN

LORRIES with sixty-foot trailers, vans and buses thunder out of Reading to Basingstoke.

Of the hamlet of Three Mile Cross hardly a house remains which **Mary Russell Mitford** knew when she described the place at the beginning of the last century in **OUR VILLAGE** (*Dent*, 6s.).

Stern old realists, with a modern social conscience, dislike Miss Mitford. They can say, with justice, that her characters are too prim and perfect. Indeed, she is the origin of all roses-round-the-cottage-door literature.

* * *

But she knew too much of misery to write about it. Her father was a gambler and ruined the family. At the age of ten Miss Mitford saved the family fortunes for a time by winning £20,000 in a lottery. But her father soon lost it all.

To find the money to support him she wrote in 1810 the first of her village essays and met with instant success. But always her father gambled the money away. When he died in 1842 a public subscription had to be raised to pay his debts.

She lived very simply for thirteen more years, crippled with rheumatism, writing to the last.

Over-sweet she may be, but I love Miss Mitford. And so will you, if you read this pretty little reprint with its coloured pictures.

In the fine days of last week I found an unspoiled Berkshire lane in her district, and in the pink evening light among the hazels, blessed her for those tenderly observant essays and tales called *Our Village*.

For Miss Mitford has the gift given only to the best writers: she can make you see with her eyes, hear the autumn stillness with her ears, even though her body is now a dry skeleton in Swallowfield churchyard.

* * *

BY THEIR DEEDS, by **Alan Peters** (*Heath Cranton*, 8s. 6d.), is an anti-Nazi novel, first written as a play in 1933.

A German professor has married an aristocrat. One of their sons is a scientist and Marxist, the other is a Nazi, the daughter is Anglophile.

Hitler has just come to power. The daughter rejects the hand of a local gauleiter. The story ends with a terrible climax with the professor denounced as a Jew.

Some may consider such a theme out of date, others who read it may feel hanging is too good for the Nazi leaders.

But for me the book was a timely warning. It reminded me of how thin the covering is over the insane, instinctive brute in all of us. How easily the brute may burst through the thin cover.

* * *

MADAME BENOIT'S SECRET, by **Charles Lascelles** (*Faber*, 8s. 6d.). A Frenchman learns dress designing from Madame Benoit, who—as any experienced thriller reader will suspect—also sells drugs.

He makes his fortune, marries an Englishwoman, leaves her for his old love, a Frenchwoman, and then returns to her.

The dress designing part is more convincing than the story.

* * *

THE BRIGHT COMPANY, by **Kathlyn Rhodes** (*Hutchinson* 9s. 6d.). Healthy, old-fashioned romance about two girls (WAAF) and two men (RAF).

* * *

DEEP, SHADOWS, by **Audrey Bushby** (*Quality Press*, 8s. 6d.). An undemonstrative farmer, his wife who goes off with another man, business, sex rivalry and a happy ending.

* * *

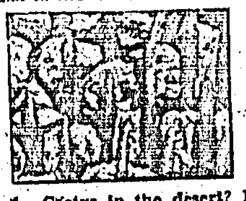
B. B. C. AND ALL THAT, by **Roger Eckersley** (*Sampson Low*, 10s. 6d.), is a disarming autobiography by a clever and obviously pleasant man who has worked in the B.B.C. from the days of 2LO until a few months ago when he retired.

Those interested in broadcasting will find this more than an autobiography. It is a history of the development of programme direction with the B.B.C.

Are You Sure?

Answers on Page Five

1. **"Vinegar Joe" died recently. He was—**
General Patton, Stilwell, Mark Clark, Anders Wingate?
2. **Soviet Russia has a tax on bachelors.**
Has England ever had one?
3. **What is the "deodar"—**
An extinct mammal, a tree, rank in the Indian Army?



4. **Cactus in the desert? Hailstones among cornshoots?**
Neither; yet part of something living—what?
5. **The "Iron Chancellor" was—**
Bismarck, Sir William Harcourt, Cardinal Richelieu, Sir Francis Bacon?
6. **Two spelling mistakes here—**
Meritorious, versesfter, bayoneted, spectacular.
7. **"Vanity Fair" is to be dramatised on the stage. It was written by—**
Somerset Maugham, Fielding, J. B. Priestley, Thackeray, Charlotte Bronte?
8. **Cerdan, making a bid for another French sports win next month, is—**
A racehorse, Rugby team, boxer, racing motorist?

SCIENCE TRENDS:

CHICKENS & MALARIA

EVERY YEAR 3,000,000 people die of malaria. At any one time, 300,000,000 people are suffering from the disease. I'll say that again—at this very moment 300,000,000 human beings are suffering from malaria. And vast areas of the world are unfit for healthy human life—through that disease alone.

Hitherto, malaria has been treated with quinine—extracted from the bark of the tropical cinchona tree. It reduced the fever of the disease, and gave some protection during the short time it was in the bloodstream. It was no cure, though—and it brought a heavy penalty of digestive upset.

Twelve years ago young Matthew Crawford—veterinary surgeon working in Ceylon—examined some chickens. They were pedigree birds brought from Britain. Almost immediately they had fallen sick and most of them were dead—while the scraggy native hens pecked healthily around. In the blood of these imported hens Crawford found a new malarial parasite—mosquito-borne infection.

Like a good scientist he wrote up his findings.

MEPACRINE

It was a French professor who realised what Crawford's discovery could mean. If the chickens' parasite was related to the human malarial parasite, it might surely be affected by the same drugs. The chickens could be used for laboratory tests. Research would be speeded enormously.

Sixteen of the infected fowls were brought back to Europe. In Paris—then in Britain and other countries—the scientists worked, with the malarial fowls.

By the time the Japs swarmed into Java and cut off our quinine supplies, the research based on poultry had produced "Mepacrine." It controlled the human malaria parasite. And unlike quinine, it could be manufactured at home.

Thanks to Crawford's chickens "Mepacrine" was ready for the Sicily invasion, and it brought relief to the 14th Army through the Burma jungle, but it did not always cure, and it turned patients the unpleasant yellow that you have seen under the bush hats of our returned jungle soldiers.

But the scientists were not satisfied with Mepacrine. The researchwork continued at high pressure. Hundreds of separate new drugs were produced, and each was tested in turn on the malarial hens. At last, one drug was selected for human experiments. It was the work of a British research team, and they called it Paludrine.

RESULTS STARTLING

Soldiers and sailors back from the tropics, wrecked with malaria, were treated at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. The results were startling.

The next stage was to test the new drug in a malarial area, and small-scale field trials were organised in Queensland, Australia. These again showed that Paludrine could cure. Full extensive trials are taking place at present in India and Australia. The first reports are coming in.

Dr Davey, biologist, reporting on the trials, has announced the cure of benign malaria—the form which, with previous treatments, kept recurring for years. The trials have indicated that Paludrine will also prevent malaria. And a few inexpensive tablets taken each week while in an infected area will give immunity.

—CHAPMAN PINCHER

According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1946, by Ely Culbertson)

There were three important "situations" in to-day's deal, and two of them were unfavourable to the declarer. Nevertheless, through excellent planning he brought home the contract.

South, dealer
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 4
♥ K 6 2
♦ A 3 2
♣ A J 8 5

WEST
♠ Q J 10 9 6
♥ Q 10 9 5
♦ 8 5
♣ 7 3

EAST
♠ 8 5 3 2
♥ A J 8
♦ 7 4
♣ Q 10 9 6

SOUTH
♠ A K
♥ 7 4 3
♦ K Q J 10 9 6
♣ K 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 diamond	Pass	3 clubs	Pass
2 diamonds	Pass	3 diamonds	Pass
6 diamonds	Pass	Pass	Pass

North should have bid two no trump on the second round, instead of jump-raising the diamonds. A game contract in no trump would have been far superior to the minor-suit contract.

If West had happened to lead a high heart the five-diamond contract would have met a quick and disastrous finish, but, not unnaturally, West preferred the spade-queen opening—which gave South a chance.

Instead of rushing to get out the trumps—as so many declarers would do—South cashed only the diamond king, then laid down the club king and led to the club ace. A third round of clubs was ruffed high, to prevent an over-ruff; then, when the club suit was found not to break, declarer cashed his remaining spade trick—to strip that suit from the North-South hands—and led a low trump to dummy's ace.

The fact that both opponents followed to the second round of trumps gave South the opportunity he was looking for. Now, instead of having to depend on a favourable position of the heart ace, South merely led another club and gave East the trick, discarding a heart from the closed hand. Obviously, East was fixed. A heart return would set up the king, and a spade return would let declarer discard another heart while ruffing in dummy.

WEEK-END WIT

PRIZE GROOM

Our prize for the most bashful man in Hongkong goes to the chap who took a stick of mistletoe along on his honeymoon.

* * *

NOT MUCH

He: Aren't you the little girl who used to shrink from my embraces?
She: I don't recoil at the moment

* * *

COINCIDENCE

"Is he as reckless a driver as people say?
"Why, when the road turns the same way as he does, it's just a coincidence."

* * *

HIS ERROR

Sergeant: Why haven't you shaved this morning?
Recruit: Well, it must be this way. There was a dozen of us using the same bit of mirror, and I must have been and gone and shaved someone else.

* * *

SACRIFICE

"She treats her husband like a Grecian god."
"How's that?"
"She places a burnt offering before him at every meal."

* * *

DWARF

Host: That whisky is twenty years' old.
Guest: Rather small for its age!

* * *

HARD

Six-year-old: Mamma, if I get married, will I have a husband like Daddy?
Mother: Why, yes.
Six-year-old: And if I don't get married, will I have to live alone like Auntie?
Mother: Yes, you will, dear.
Six-year-old: It's a hard world for us women, isn't it, Mamma?

* * *

GOODNESS

Friend: Why did you have to run home last night?
Girl: I was being chaste.

PRACTICE

Dentist: Pardon me, madam, but before beginning the work I must go to the next room for my drill.
Patient: Good gracious, man! Can't you do a tooth without a rehearsal?

* * *

BRIDGE PROBLEM

Husband: That's the third time you've asked what trumps are.
Wife: Well, you want me to show a little interest in the game, don't you, dear?

* * *

MAKING SURE

Boss: What do you want? I sacked you two weeks ago.
Office Boy: I just came back to see if you're still in business.

* * *

POOR LITTLE ONES

"Why are the two little inkpots crying?"
"Because their father is in the pen finishing a sentence."

* * *

DOUBLE PURPOSE

Wife: That's just like you! Here we are shipwrecked, and all you can think of rescuing is a case of whisky.
Husband: But, my dear, just think of the messages we can send out in the empties!

* * *

STICKLER

M.O.: That's a terrible arm you've got, my man. How did you injure it?
Soldier: Salutin' an officer while goin' through a revolvin' door, sir.

* * *

WARNING!

He: Shall we drop the oars and drift down the river?
She: All right, so long as we don't drift too far.

* * *

RIDDLE

Q. If you see a Scotsman standing in the street with a piece of bread in each hand, what is he waiting for?
A. Traffic jam.

SIDE GLANCES — By Galbraith



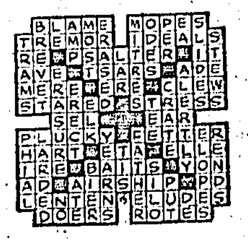
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"What's the use of my buying expensive perfumes? With that cigar going full blast, by the time we get to the party I'll smell like an old ash tray!"

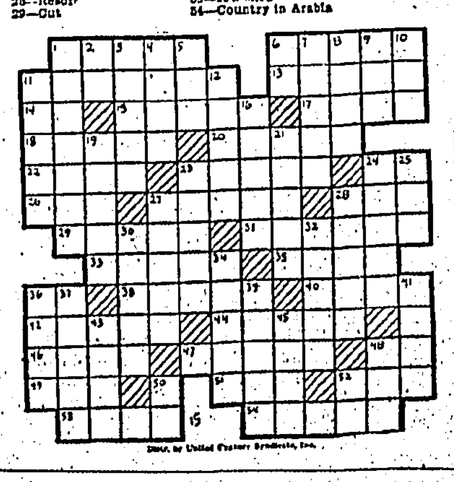
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1—Spree (slang)
6—Biandre's support
11—Boatman
12—Speak
14—Upon
15—Apparent
17—The sweetsop
18—Salary increase
20—Tilled land in Spain
22—Just one time
23—Backbone
24—Steamship (abbr.)
26—Burmese tribe
27—Pupils' work
28—Resort
29—Cut
31—Fishtrap
32—Where cattle fatten
35—Spray
36—Alternating current (abbr.)
38—Bloodsuckers
40—Rocks in water
42—Series of notes
44—Desires
46—Buffalo's lake
47—What 21 Across uses
48—Prefix: down
49—Took a seat
51—A number
52—Mild oath (obs.)
53—It's shed
54—Country in Arabia

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



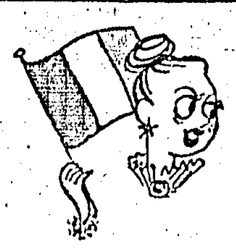
DOWN
1—Yellow fruit
2—At home
3—Hingman's instrument
4—Donate
5—Sumac native
6—Thus
7—Swap
8—Pro
9—Lunched
10—Footlike part
11—French painter
12—What drummer plays
16—Stale
19—Colder
21—Genus of cocoa
23—Gulf fabric
24—Tableware
25—Squatted
27—Relief
28—Undercover agents
30—Worth
32—Dig
34—Brilliancy
35—"Rock of ——"
37—Weight of precious stones
39—Sweet liquid
41—Guns
43—Tiny thing
45—Not any
48—Spanish nobleman
50—Conjunction
52—Hebrew letter



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NANCY — For a Swank Effect — By Ernie Bushmiller





Madame, Will You Talk?

by BERNARD WICKSTEED



NOW that France and Britain have got together to abolish passport visas this might be a good moment to ask ourselves: What do we really know about each other?

I dare say the politicians know an awful lot about each other, but politicians aren't everybody.

What I'd like to ask is: How much do people like you and me know? After all, we're the ones who put the politicians in their place.

So what I did was to get out a list of questions and put it to an English girl and a French girl, and from their answers I have written two little essays.

Representing our side, we have Miss Helen Maynard, who is a shorthand-typist. She is 21, was educated in a convent in Sussex, and has never been to France.

Her opposite number is Madame Raymonde Arnoult, who is also a shorthand-typist. She is 28, and went to an elementary school in the country. First of all, then, here is—

FRANCE AND THE FRENCH

as seen by Miss Maynard.

FRANCE is a country to the east of the British Isles—on the Continent, you know. It's bigger than Britain, but Paris, the capital, is not so large as London. Three other important French cities are Lille, Toulon and Boulogne.

The French don't have a king and they don't have a parliament—at least, not exactly a parliament. They have a Chamber of something instead.

The climate is very much the same as in England. In the north the country is mainly industrial and in the south they go in more for farming. Fashions, agriculture and fishing are the chief industries.

As a nation the French are no more enterprising than the British and no more brave. They are not so united.

But they're richer than we are. They're not any more clever, but they've got more common sense. They're more artistic and they have beautiful manners.

I don't know whether the working people are better off there, but they get as much to eat as we do, and the housing situation is about the same.

They suffered more in the war than we did, except in Normandy, which is a rich farming district. I've heard our boys say the farmers in Normandy were sorry when the war ended.

France isn't recovering from the war as quickly as we are because things are still pretty chaotic. There doesn't seem to be any system there—price controls and so on, you know.

I always connect French people with rolls and coffee. I don't know why. I certainly never heard that they lived on frogs and snails. Red and white wines are their favourite drinks.

The French people dress more elaborately than we do. They go in for a lot of trimmings and, in my opinion they overdo it a bit.

The worst thing I've ever heard about them is that they're immoral. Personally I don't believe that they're worse than any other nation. The best thing I've heard is that the women are the most charming in the world.

I wouldn't mind a bit if a son or daughter of mine married someone from France.

It's a pity we don't all speak French in my view. It's a much more musical language than ours.

No, I don't speak it myself. The only words I know are in a song taught me by a French paratrooper.

School history books say that when we used to fight each other we beat the French more often than they beat us, but I take that with a grain of salt.

The most important thing we have learned from France in recent years is the danger of having a Fifth Column in your midst.

On the whole I think it's a great pity that they turned down Mr Churchill in 1940 when he offered to unite the French and British Empires and give us all a common citizenship.

COMMENT

WELL, that's France for you by an English girl. When I first started this series, "It's Fun Finding Out." I said my aim was not so much to satisfy your curiosity as to arouse it, and for that reason I'm not going to analyse Miss Maynard's essay.

All I will say is that I don't think it's at all bad. She has got some of her facts wrong and contradicted herself occasionally, but by and large she's not wildly out. Take a look at the questions and see what you think.

And now for the other side. Here is—

BRITAIN AND THE BRITISH

as seen by Mme. Arnoult

BRITAIN is an island to the north-west of France. It is a smaller country than ours and London, the capital, is smaller than Paris. Three other important cities are Manchester, Brighton and Birmingham.

The British have a king who is married and has two daughters. They have a parliament that consists of an Upper Chamber and a Lower Chamber.

The climate is temperate and humid and the population is mainly rural. Mining, iron and steel, shipping and textiles are the main industries.

As a nation the British are more dynamic than we are. They are more calm, more united and better brought up. They are richer than we and they're just as brave.

I don't know if the working people are better off, but they get about the same amount to eat as we do. Their houses are more comfortable than ours, I suppose. (Oh, madame, what a cry from the heart that is!)

They didn't suffer so much in the war as we did. I know they had the bombs, but they didn't have the occupation. However, they are not recovering as quickly as we are.

The favourite dish of the British is bacon, and their main drinks are beer and tea. They dress more sportingly than we do.

ABOUT COURAGE

The worst thing I've heard about them is that the Scots are mean, and the best thing I've heard is their reputation for courage.

I wouldn't mind if a son or daughter of mine married one of them. It would be all the same to me.

It's a pity they don't all speak French because then they would get to know us better. I don't speak English myself but I would like to go to England and learn.

When we used to fight each other the British beat us more often than we beat them.

We fought side by side in the 1914 war and all through the last war. The most important thing that we've learned from Britain in recent years is how to suffer restrictions without complaining.

I don't think it would have been a good thing for us to have accepted Mr Churchill's offer of common citizenship. Our qualities are too different. But I do think an alliance between us is necessary.

COMMENT

THANK you, Raymonde, for telling us what you think of us, and if you should ever visit London people will be delighted to put on their most sporting clothes and show you how well brought up we are.

What happens to our MONEY?

by JAMES CAMERON

THE morose and dispiriting expression on my face is not caused by dyspeptic spasms or the imminence of Doomsday, but by the daily contemplation of that insoluble riddle: What happens to the change when you break a bank-note?

Money has developed an extraordinarily slippery quality recently. It was never so nimble; never was it quite so difficult to equate those warring brethren, income and expenditure.

I know nothing of other people's money; as time goes on I seem to know less and less about my own. I have a strong feeling, however, that the attitude of the ordinary salaried worker, like myself, to the whole financial question is anachronistic. Money has changed its character but we haven't.

WE know by now—surely?—that the day when a paid employee could, by endeavour or thrift or application or even parsimony, accumulate money out of income is gone.

Taxation has stopped that, rising prices have stopped it, the cold, damp draught of the last few years has stopped it.

I should say that right now it is outright impossible for anyone with a fixed earned income and no resources in his sock to do much more than trend water.

The job, though, is to take that as a working rule.

My own income, now, is somewhere between that of a Madras coolie and that of Mr Henry Ford; within that handsome margin it has fluctuated, at times quite violently, without in the least affecting the general rule; the more one makes the easier it is to find oneself down to one's last.

My own study of the higher economics is rather erratic and always biased; nevertheless, I am but too familiar with that inexorable economic law that sends one's expenses up always two jumps ahead of one's salary.

The trouble is that we are paddling furiously between two worlds. We are only a few years past the generation when a man was able to put something by.

We are only a few years ahead of a generation which, I do believe and hope, will count its solvency in terms of money well spent rather than well hoarded.

But at the moment we approve of the future, while the past conditions our reflexes.

I AM, in spite of my pretentious talk, frequently haunted by the reflection that no matter what I make I cannot save a bean.

I know that I spend too much on certain things—cigarettes, drink, reading, railway trains—but I can reasonably offset that by considering how much I save on expensive commodities like deposit accounts, insurances, and gilt-edged securities.

I know one is foolish to buy anything—houses, furniture, fishing rods, anything—just now, in a 100 per cent. seller's market, at peak prices. But they are likely to remain so for years yet. Meanwhile life creaks by, and I might as well pretend to own something while I can.

I can swim in such casuistry, but I have not quite managed to throttle the nagging whisper: Your grandfather managed to save a tidy sum each year. What's the matter with you?

OBVIOUSLY, I is no use regretting I am not like him; one must rationalise it somehow—nine people out of ten are in the same boat, and, if one may coin a jewelled phrase, there are other things than money. Or else just go bust with a good grace. But, in any case, don't do as I do, and talk about it.

A friend of mine who rations his children rigidly to a dole of a few pence a week tells me that they always use those pennies for skiffing on a pond.

They are the perfect shape, and when they are gone the children are quite satisfied, as well they might be, being the only people I know who have discovered a truly functional use for hard cash.

It has really come to them at last, what money is for.

THESE WERE THE QUESTIONS

WHERE is France (or England)? Is it a larger or smaller country than ours? What is the capital? Name three other important cities. Is there a king, and do they have a parliament? What's the climate like? What are the main industries?

Are they a more enterprising nation, richer, more united, more brave, more clever, more artistic, better mannered?

Are the working people better off? Have they got better houses? Do they get more to eat than we do? Did they suffer more in the war? Are they recovering more quickly?

What do they eat and drink? Do they dress differently? What's the worst thing you've heard about them? What's the best?

Would you mind if a son or daughter of yours was married to one of them?

Do you think it's a pity they don't speak our language? Do you speak theirs? When we used to fight each other did we beat them more often than they beat us?

What is the most important lesson we've learned from them in recent years? Would it have been a good thing or a bad if Mr Churchill's offer in 1940 had been accepted?

WILLIAM HICKEY

MIGHTIER PENS

WAR history to be prepared by Cambridge historian JAMES RAMSAY MONTAGU BUTLER will be a fully documented and multi-volumed reference book which nobody is ever likely to read through.

It will probably be about ten years before the first part is published, and when it will be finished is anybody's guess. The last four volumes of the history of World War I are still awaited—if not impatiently.

In the meanwhile, the three Service departments are preparing preliminary official histories and, judging by the writers selected, intend them to be readable.

The Admiralty have picked ARTHUR BRYANT, a master of well-chosen words.

The War Office need six to do justice to the Army. LAN HAY will describe the growth and organisation of the Army; ERIC LINKLATER, the Italian campaigns; JOHN NORTH, Western Europe; EVAN JOHN, the African campaigns; FRANK OWEN, Burma and the Far East, and CHRISTOPHER BUCKLEY, the campaigns in Norway, Greece, Syria, Madagascar.

The Air Ministry will rely on ebullient HILARY AIDEN ST. GEORGE SAUNDERS, the House of Lords librarian. His Battle of Britain, which was first of the unofficial histories, sold more than 6,000,000 copies.

WAR MINISTER was asked by Lieut-Commander CLARK HUTCHISON to derequisition an hotel near Edinburgh to accommodate visitors to forthcoming international drama festival.

Hotel belongs to Captain THOMAS CRAWFORD, who studied music under a niece of Strauss and christened his eldest daughter HELDA, after the music-teacher.

But she is ANNE CRAWFORD to filmgoers.

DOWN to earth comes CYRIL EUSTACE DOUGLAS-FENNANT, who will have a ground-floor office as commandant of the new Joint Services staff college.

His last job included a desk on the ninth floor, and when the lift broke down, which was not unusual, this long-winded rear-admiral was the only senior officer able to take 272 stairs non-stop.

GIVEN ability to spot an opportunity and get in quick, the times still make the jobs.

Because servants are short, an enterprising young woman called MARY WHITEHEAD is sending cheerful letters to tenants of swank London flats offering to shop, prepare, cook and serve meals. She promises to go easy on the rations, too.

Not knowing what else to do, provincial visitors are apt to sit around in their hotel lounges at night. FRANK BLAKE noticed that and promptly started a personal look-see service. He calls it VUP—for Very Unimportant People.

A happy-washing service is doing fine with the slogan, 'Rock-a-dry-baby.'

SNIPPED from the American NEWS-WEEK:—

The Irish have a phrase for nearly everything and they have one for migration of wealthy Britons to virtually unrationed, non-Socialist Eire. They call it "The Retreat from Moscow."

To Eire is human.

COMMENT

By

"Candidus"

"I SHALL be back in five minutes" said I. "Just going over to the Post Office."

I don't make a habit of going to the Post Office, because I'm one of those impatient souls who hate wasting time. On this particular occasion I had a particularly important document which I wished to see handed safely over to His Majesty's Post Office, lest it might possibly be lost before it reached the safety of Imperial custody.

People write a lot of letters to the papers about the Post Office. (Perhaps I should qualify this by saying—the *Hongkong* Post Office!) Some I thought slightly unreasonable, but after Wednesday's ordeal, I admire their restraint.

The mere weighing and purchase of stamps took but five minutes, but the job—and job it was—of getting my package registered and securing the receipt—well, it simply beggars description.

For the staff, two clerks and two boys at the registration counter, I have the greatest respect and admiration. They fought against almost overwhelming odds, and the fellow who took my package from the dozens of outstretched hands apologised for the fact that I should have to wait until the lad who was scribbling - scribbling - scribbling receipts, caught up.

Glancing at the pile before him, I was amazed that he did! When I say caught up, I mean that my package ultimately came to the front, but the pile remained the same. It took twenty-five minutes for mine to reach the registering hand.

* * *

NEVER in my life have I seen such lack of organisation—such utter inadequacy of staff. Never again will I scold my office boy for being away from the office for half-an-hour when I have sent him to register a letter.

I marvel that human beings can stand for hours on end, working at soul-destroying speed against odds which must seriously affect their health.

Apart from the aspect of the comfort or otherwise of the staff, there is, of course, the point of view of the public. It is nothing short of scandalous that such inefficiency should exist in one of Britain's greatest public services. Elsewhere in the Empire, we have the greatest admiration for our postmen and post offices generally—but not so in Hongkong.

The thought occurs after such an experience: "What sort of a service does the Post Office provide in Hongkong? It must be remembered that we have a population nearing the two million mark. Are there sufficient sub-post offices? Are there sufficient pillar boxes? Is there sufficient staff? Is there up-to-date organisation? Can people buy stamps easily throughout the Colony without having to swell the squirming crowds who congest the General Post Office?

If His Majesty's Government is so niggardly that it cannot afford adequate staff to cope with the public demand, then surely somebody might at least plead for the necessary funds to erect barriers in order at least to preserve public dignity and comfort.

* * *

COMPULSORY queueing would relieve members of the public from finding themselves jammed in a pushing and squirming crowd, when and where the thoughts of every conceivable germ become uppermost. Yes! Turnstiles might control the unpleasant crowding which at present turns His Majesty's General Post Office (Hongkong) into an exceptionally shattering example of Bedlam.

It is about time that Hongkong awakened to the fact that Victoria is a very important city, and that in common with the rest of the world, Post Office facilities must be provided along modern lines.

I now feel myself to be one of those who from time to time complain about the fantastically unbelievable discomfort which is to be experienced. I would urge Honourable Members of our Legislative and Executive Councils to visit the Colony's G. P. O. for the purpose of experiencing the ordeal of registering a package.

ARE YOU SURE?

ANSWERS

Questions on Page Four

1. General Stilwell. 2. Yes. A tax was levied on bachelors—from £12 10s. for a duke to 1s. for a "common person"—between 1695 and 1706. 3. Hindu sacred tree. 4. Section of a cat's tongue. 5. Bismarck. 6. Versifier, bayonetted. 7. Thackeray. 8. Marcel Cerdan, a French middleweight boxer.

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·· SPORTS FEATURES ··

FEAST OF FOOTBALL FARE AVAILABLE AT WEEK-END

TEAMS THAT PLAY VASTLY DIFFERENT TYPE OF SOCCER

(By See Tee)

WHAT A FEAST OF FOOTBALL FARE IS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK-END! TO-DAY THERE ARE THREE FIRST DIVISION MATCHES AND THREE IN THE SECOND DIVISION AND ALL HAVE A FINE SPICE OF INTEREST IN THEM. TO-MORROW THERE ARE THREE MORE SENIOR LEAGUE GAMES WHILE THE CLUB'S GROUND IS TO BE THE VENUE OF A MEETING OF SOUTH CHINA AND SING TAO IN THE JUNIOR DIVISION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS CLASH OF THE SECOND STRINGS OF THE TWO LEADING CHINESE CLUBS WILL PRODUCE SOME EXCELLENT FOOTBALL.

The best of to-day's matches seems to be 45 Commando and South China at Causeway Bay. Both teams are in winning vein, but play a vastly different type of soccer. This game promises to be one of the best for some while.

42 Commando and the Navy at Sookunpoo this afternoon is another attractive fixture, while the Club at home to the RAF is sure to draw a keen crowd.

Clubs in the lower half of the table are opposed at Sookunpoo to-morrow afternoon: 44 Commando will find themselves well matched with Kwong Wah. St Joseph's should be fully extended by Eastern at Causeway Bay and if these two clubs produce their normal game there are sure to be many spirited exchanges. St Joseph's will probably be fielding the same team which has to meet CASC next Saturday in their Senior Shield re-play.

The Amateurs, for their part, can count themselves lucky in having a game with Sing Tao as their prelude to the replay. Just now Sing Tao are in an all-conquering vein: they are playing grand football and their team-work is excellent. The Amateurs have gone from strength to strength as the season has progressed. They play fast football which carefully blends close passing with swinging the ball about. They are also full of dash and enthusiasm. Anything may happen in this game.

Memorial Cup Matches

The two Memorial Cup matches played last week-end have served as pleasant reminders that the First Division of the local leagues does not hold a monopoly of individual talent. Particularly in the Non-Chinese Civilians v. Army game was this in evidence. Perhaps the most noticeable instance was the civilians' inside-right, Stevens. During the whole ninety minutes of the game (and ninety minutes is a long time when players have become used to only thirty-five minutes each way) he played consistently clever football. His slanting passes to his outside man, placed just where a winger likes them so that he can pick the ball up on the run, were always shrewdly judged. He varied these tactics with down-the-centre passes, thereby cleverly changing the point of attack.

Stevens's opposite number at inside-left, Gomes of the Police, more than justified his inclusion in the civilians' team. He atoned for his lack of weight by some shadowy dribbling and canny distribution of the ball. It's quite a while since I saw a forward using body-swerve (leaning one way only to career off sharply in another direction) to round an opponent. Bastin, one of the greatest English left wingers, was an exponent of this. He would scoop up the ball with his right foot, all the while leaning heavily down his wing, then swerve round in a space no bigger than the size of the ball to leave his opponents charging at thin air.

Spectators at the Army v. Non-Chinese Civilians match will long remember the splendid display of Ford, 1/5 Commandos' clever wing-man. Throughout the first half of the game Ford was the only Army forward to make any impression on the civilians' defence: he received no support from the other forwards, indeed, often he saw his efforts frittered away in front of goal. Playing with the wind in the second half Ford proceeded to show his team-mates how it should be done—he opened their account. Four more goals followed for the Army, every one of which was directly attributable to Ford's thrust and clever centring. The Army's third goal was as good as any I have seen. Ford tore away leaving Hussain standing, rounded the full back and in one stride swept across a sharply angled rising centre almost from the goal-line. Running in from the other wing Neale connected with a cannon ball header which flashed past the helpless McDougall. No goalkeeper could hope to counter such tactics. The last goal was very similar, Neale heading in from another angled centre from Ford.

The Laws Of The Game

The Throw-in

"Two Linesmen shall be appointed," states Law 6 "whose duty (subject to the decision of the Referee) shall be to indicate when the ball in out of play and which side is entitled to the corner-kick, goal-kick or throw-in." Obviously a linesman is more concerned in the throw-in from the touchline than most other incidents. A few words on what constitutes a proper throw-in from touch may certainly help a few local linesmen.

The chief points to remember are (a) the thrower must deliver the ball with TWO hands; (b) he must have parts of both feet on the touch-line or outside it; (c) he must face the field of play; (d) the throw must be from over the thrower's head. Perhaps the most common infringement of this law is the lifting of one foot from the ground as the throw is being made; a player can make a longer throw with the added impetus given by raising one foot—he can also make a stronger throw by using one hand only with the other hand merely steering the ball.

Weaver, of Newcastle United and Chelsea, is able to throw a ball a great distance without infringing any of the points I have mentioned. He uses the whole of his body from the waist upwards to impart strength to his throw: I have seen him drop the ball into the goal area from a throw-in near the corner flag. I noticed recently that Fox, of the R.A.F., was able to throw a good distance.

A goal may not be scored against either side direct from a throw-in from touch; no player is offside from a throw-in (not many players know that); the ball must be thrown not merely dropped; and the thrower must not again play the ball before it has been played by another player.

WEEK-END SPORTS

TO-DAY

SOCCER

FIRST DIVISION

Club: Club v. RAF, 4 p.m.
Causeway Bay: South China v. 45 Cdo, 4 p.m.
Sookunpoo: 42 Cdo v. Navy, 4 p.m.
NB: 42 Cdo are taking over the remaining fixtures of 1/5 Cdo, who have withdrawn from the League.

SECOND DIVISION

Causeway Bay: CASC v. Signals, 2.30 p.m.
Club: Club v. Travancore, 2.30 p.m.
Chatham Road: 44 RM Cdo v. Chinese Cndre, 2.30 p.m.
Dockyard v. Kwong Wah postponed.

• • •

CRICKET

KCC intra-club match.

• • •

RUGBY

Sookunpoo: Navy "A" v. Rest "A", 3 p.m.; Colony Over 25 v. Colony Under 25, 4 p.m.

TO-MORROW

SOCCER

FIRST DIVISION

Sookunpoo: 44 RM Cdo v. Kwong Wah, 4 p.m.
Club: Sing Tao v. CASC, 4 p.m.
Causeway Bay: St Joseph's v. Eastern, 4 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION

Club: Sing Tao v. South China, 2.30 p.m.
Causeway Bay: Navy v. Wireless Centre, 2.30 p.m.
Chatham Road: 3 Cdo Bde. HQ v. Police, 2.30 p.m.

• • •

FASTBALL

Club de Recrelo: Rovers v. Canucks, Baseballers v. Chung Wah, 10.30 a.m.; St Joseph's v. Giants, Hotshots v. Recrelo, 2 p.m.



An incident in the Memorial Cup football match played last week-end when the Chinese beat the Navy 2-1. (Ming Yuen).

Olympiad Wrestling Team Building Plan

Britain has a two-year wrestling plan for the Olympic Games.

The selectors have already chosen an Olympic team, though this will not necessarily be unchanged when the Games take place in 1948.

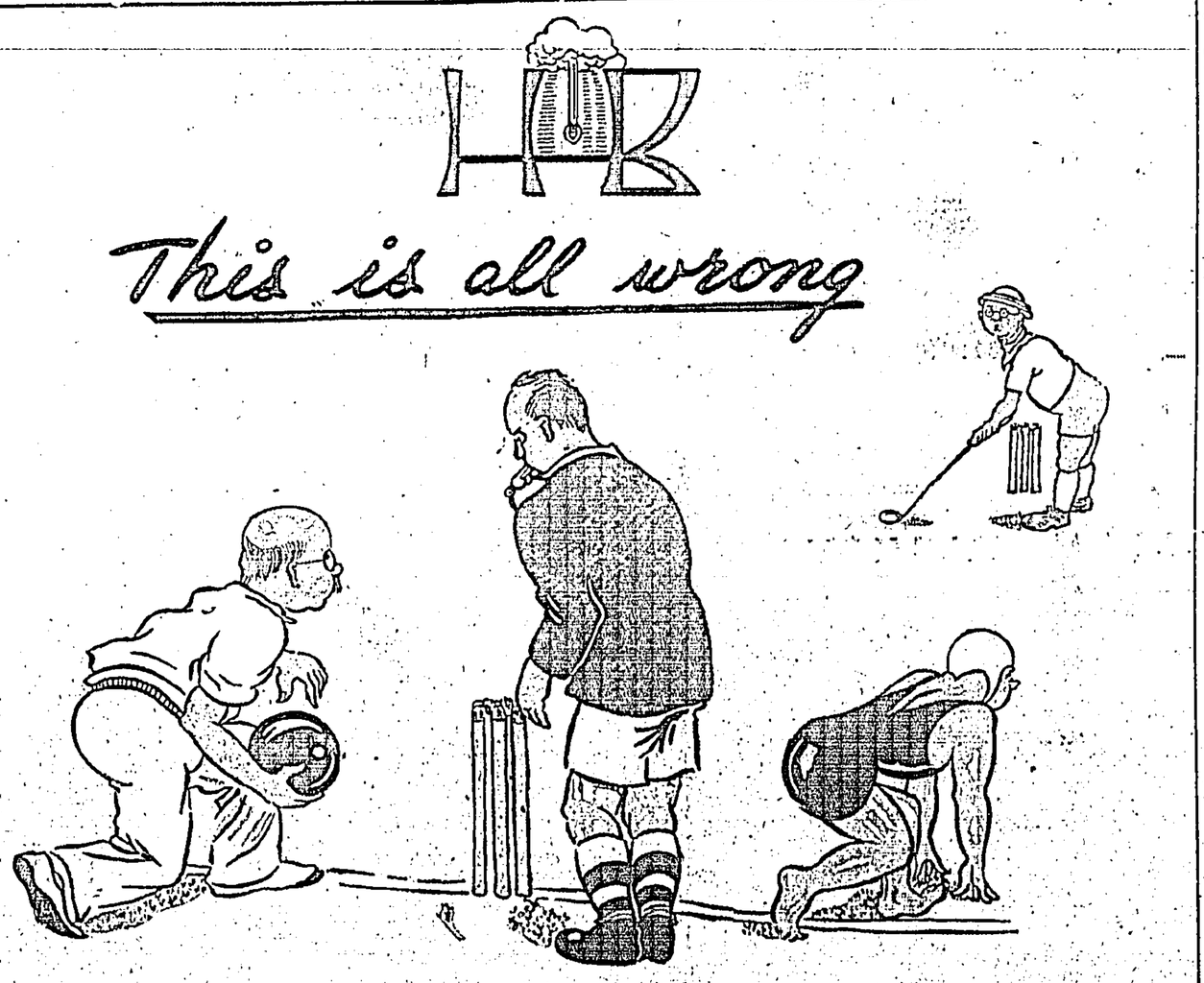
A condition of the selectors is that should anyone chosen be beaten in an official Olympic team trial match against any other British wrestling side then the Olympic team member forfeits his place to the winner, who in turn retains his place in the provisional team for just as long as he is unbeaten in the official series. By the time the Games are due it is expected that a powerful team will have been built up, and a sound, well-tried competitor will be available for each contest.

Scientific Training Of Speedway Riders

Speedway tracks in Britain are expecting an unprecedented boom in the 1947 season, and to meet the inevitable demand for more riders, the Speedway authorities have decided to open a training school.

The schoolmaster will be "Tiger" Stevenson, who was captain of the West Ham team for ten years, and in the seasons before World War II was one of Britain's best exponents of the art of dirt-track riding. He will have the task of training 50 officials: new riders in readiness for the start of the 1947 season.

Stevenson hopes to have 200 pupils at his Birmingham school, and the best of them should be earning big money when the next Season gets under way. All the riders will be trained by scientific methods. One of the training devices is a saddle on which the candidate sits and watches a cinema picture of the track, while his reactions are recorded on a chart. Most speedway races are won by the rider who gets away from the starting gate first, so an apparatus consisting of coloured lights and a stop-watch has been designed to test quickness of thought and action. Six new tracks will be opened in Britain so these new riders will have plenty of room in which to show their skill and training.



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FASTBALL CORNER

Hotshots Eclipse Mighty Saints In Popular Victory

(By "Spectator")

ENTERING THE FIELD WITH ALL ODDS AGAINST THEM, HOTSHOTS PULLED DOWN THE ONCE MIGHTY ST JOSEPH'S IN NO UNCERTAIN MANNER TO REGISTER A MOST UNEXPECTED BUT POPULAR VICTORY BY FIVE RUNS TO FOUR, AND TO CLAIM THE LIMELIGHT, IN LAST SUNDAY'S FULL LEAGUE PROGRAMME OF FOUR GAMES. ANOTHER WIN BY A MARGIN OF ONLY A SINGLE RUN WAS THE TUSSLE BETWEEN THE GIANTS AND ROVERS. AN ELEVENTH-HOUR EFFORT FOR RECOVERY FROM A FOUR-RUN LEAD BY THE ROVERS JUST FAILED, ALTHOUGH IT MUST BE SAID THAT THE GIANTS HAD THE UPPER HAND ALL THE WAY. TONY ALVES' RAMBLING RECS TOOK TOO MUCH OF A COMMANDING LEAD THAT A FINE RALLY BY THE BASEBALL CLUB IN THE FINAL FRAME CAME TO NO AVAIL. THE PORTUGUESE WON COMFORTABLY BY 11 RUNS TO SIX.

The tilt between Canadian Chinese and Chung Wah did not materialise, the latter failing to field a team and conceded a walk-over. It was intimated that Chung Wah might withdraw from the competition, but according to Hon. Sec. Tony Ribeiro, there has been no official advice to that effect.

DASHING into an overwhelming lead of five runs in the first three stanzas, the bunch of "kids" who comprise the fighting-est Hotshots forced the Saints into jitters—during that period the Josephians surely looked befuddled. For the St Joseph's to lag so far behind, team boss Dave Leonard—that accepted "A" class ball player—again was to blame. As things would have it, when he juggled with an easy grounder and let it go between his legs, two costly runs came in. Is it the jinx, Dave? He did, however, compensate somewhat for the error with a Ruthian clout to score a home run.

The Saints reduced the lead to 5-3 against them when they had their last turn at bat. They had their "strong men" coming up for the attack. However, here was how they did not come off: Stan Leonard led off and was caught infield. Brother Dave banged the ball intended to clear the ground into the road but just missed, but Hotshot Gerry Roza-Pereira mishandled the catch and allowed Leonard to reach third.

One away, man on third, two runs to force a tie, Skelly Razack came on but went out on a near-hit. Two away—still it was yet hopeful for the Saints when Jindoo Hussain sauntered to the plate for his turn. Jindoo is the type capable of slamming the ball very far—and a home run would have squared up matters. He did well but not well enough. He slashed out a powerful double to send Leonard home.

One run behind, pinch-hitter George Souza was brought in. It was an exciting moment. Souza placed one nicely to the right pasture but its effect was rendered nil when fielder Miskin Samy raced in to get under the old apple to bring off a good catch, and incidentally to bring the Hotshots victory. That was a swell piece of work, Miskin!

• • •

THE HOTSHOTS impressed specially in their outfield. The big hits made by the Saints came to nought as express Johnny Castilho, whirlwind Gerry Roza-Pereira and nibble-footed Miskin Samy showed themselves to be fly-chasing specialists. Their batting was led by Arthur Larcina, Spikey Guterres, Jerry Roza-Pereira, H. (Tiger) Hussein and Johnny Castilho, who each made a hit of the five registered. Spikey's was a homer. Twirler Arto Almeida and Sabu Samy did well as battery mates. Almeida restricted the Saints to four hits. Again the latter were outhit, this time 5-4.

St. Joseph's defeat was the second in two outings. They are almost completely out of the picture in the pennant chasing, unless they win all the remaining games, which is highly improbable though possible, of course. For them, it is a case of the beginning of the eclipse of the mighty. And as long as they cannot find a passable pitcher, they are expected to continue to fail. Reggy Lobo, their latest acquisition for mound duties, did service in last week's game and pitched gamely, but is not up to standard yet. Perhaps a little more practice may see some improvement.

The Hotshots, on the other hand, have come to the fore by a victory won on sheer merit. From the form seen they are certain to give a good account of themselves in future games. They are yet far from championship claimants, however. Good going, Hotshots, keep it up!

• • •

BIG CHIEF Tony Alves was not a happy man although his team, the Rambling Recs, won easily from the Baseballers. He thought that they could do better, as indeed they could, but they were taking things easy. This, according to Tony, may develop into loose playing, and his team will be found wanting in tight games. But definitely!

No grounders were allowed to go through the airtight Rec infield of Leo Vieira at the hot corner, Tony himself at the windy alley, Bertie Gosano at the second station and Wilfred Lawrence at first. And at batting, Spotty Pereira led the parade with a 100 percent return, in addition to three bases stolen in three winks. Likable Leo Vieira banged a two-bagger and Bertie Gosano slammed a three-bagger. Clubman Runyon registered the envious average of scoring two hits out of three times at bat.

The finest exhibition of place batting witnessed for a long time was brought off by the Baseballers. It was in the last frame of the game. One after another, Owens, Ernie Hearther, Doc Molthen, Dave Runyon and Young each beat out neat bingles. Five of them in a row was some exhibition! Thanks for the treat, boys!

• • •

GIANTS A. H. (Big Boy) Baker and Charlie Quinn again shone in the slugging department in the

(Continued on Page 8)

Just Arrived for Christmas

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Punch Royal Coronation
" Potit Coronation
" Coronation
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" Standard Mixture
Balkan Sorraino Mixture
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Barney's Ideal
Punchbowle
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PICTORIAL RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS



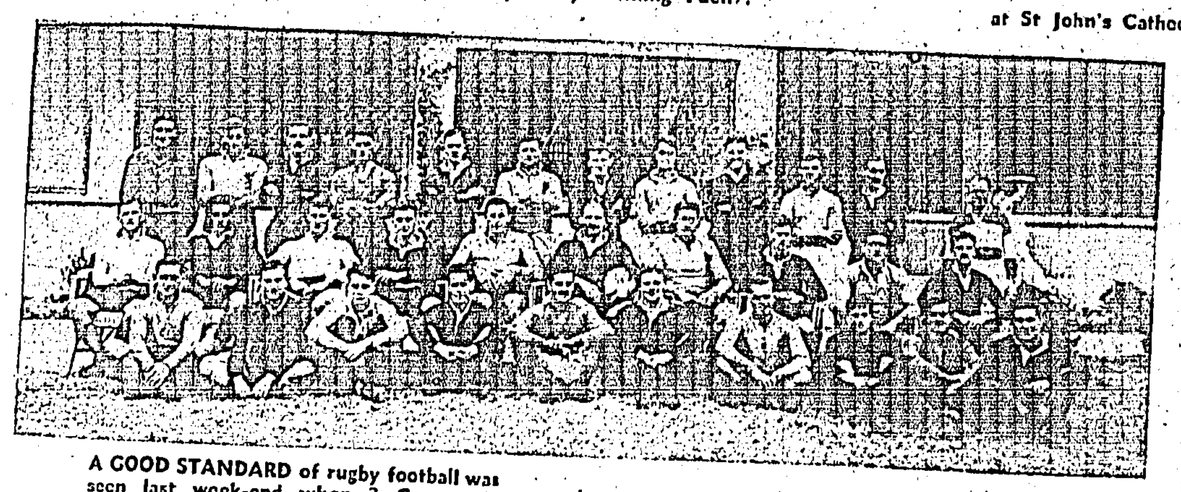
CAIRNS-MCKELVIE—Mr James Worswick Cairns, of Messrs Butterfield & Swire, and his bride, formerly Miss Sheina Isabel Fraser McKelvie, pose for the photographer after their wedding at St John's Cathedral last Saturday. (Ming Yuen).



ANOTHER charming wedding at St ohn's Cathedral on Saturday last was that of Captain William White and Miss Mary Davoy. (Ming Yuen).



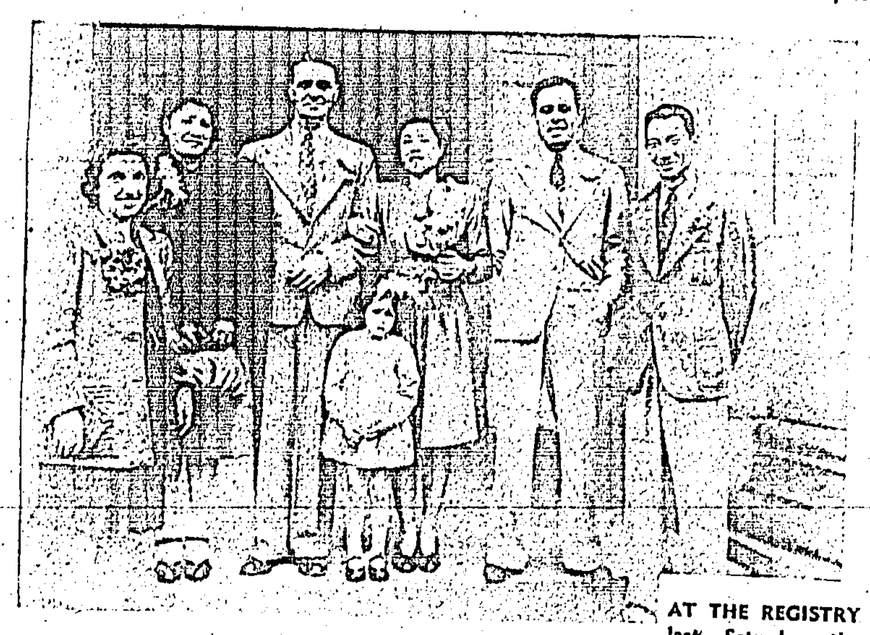
MR JACK VANTHALL and Miss Nan Grey were married at a quiet ceremony at St John's Cathedral last week. (Ming Yuen).



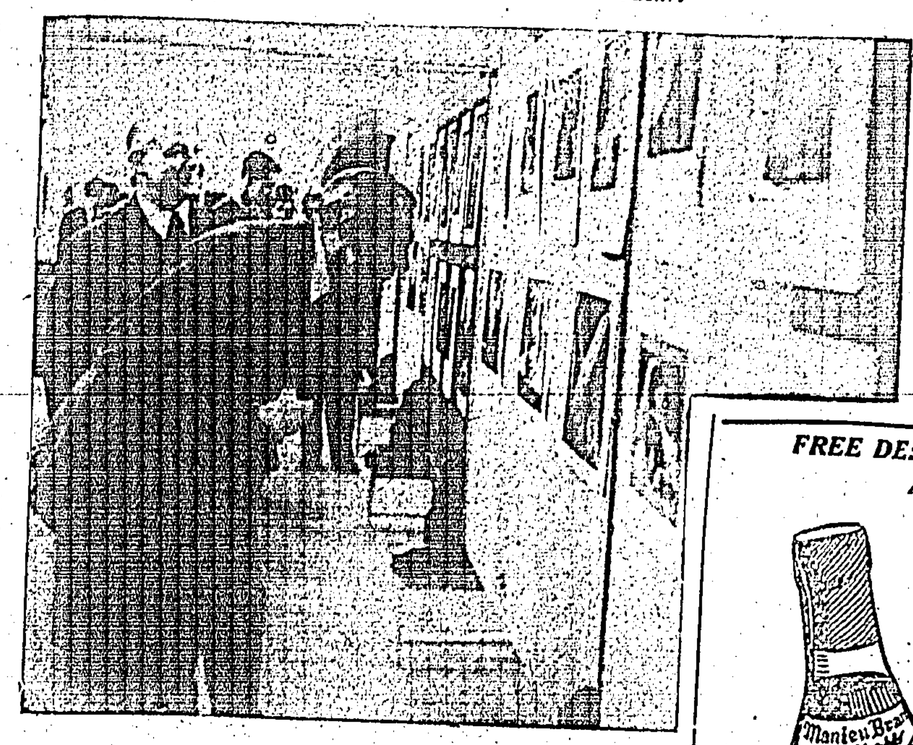
A GOOD STANDARD of rugby football was seen last week-end when 3 Commando Brigade played the Rest of the Colony, with honours going to the former. The two teams are pictured above before the game. (Ming Yuen).



H.E. THE GOVERNOR, Sir Mark Young, opened the Hongkong International Salon of Pictorial Photography last week. In the picture below, His Excellency inspects the exhibits accompanied by the acting President, Mr E. O'Neil Shaw. (Ming Yuen).



AT THE REGISTRY last Saturday the wedding took place of Mr George Frederick Rhodes, Hongkong police officer, and Miss Patricia Anne Blyth of Shanghai. (Ming Yuen).





MR M. N. SPEYER and Miss Margaret Jean Cornaby, who were married at St John's Cathedral recently. (Ming Yuen).



GENERAL VIEW of the Al Fresco Fete organised by the Society of St Vincent de Paul recently, at which the sum of $13,500 was collected for charity.

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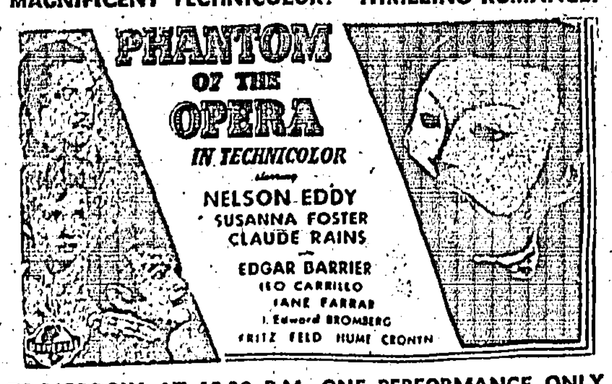
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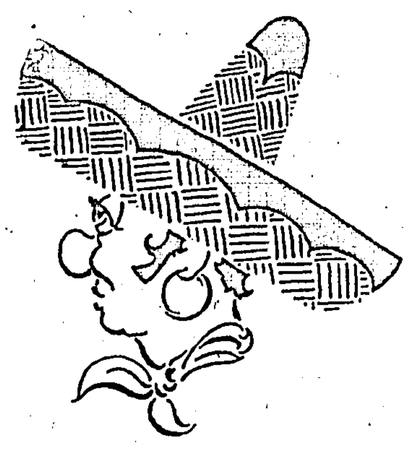


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SUBMARINE LAND MASS DISCOVERED

Aboard USS
Mount Olympus, Dec. 19.

Admiral Byrd's new Antarctic expedition made its first discovery last night—an uncharted undersea mountain range more than two miles in height on the Pacific floor.

The underwater mass was located by sounding equipment aboard two ships of Byrd's task force as they started operations in a zone 1,800 miles west of the South American coast.

Navigation officers on the flagship estimated that the unnamed range is roughly 15 miles wide and 30 miles long and runs in a southwesterly direction.

The two ships which took the soundings, a submarine and an icebreaker, were 30 miles apart at the time. They reported that soundings showed shallow water when charts showed the ocean floor should be 12,000 feet below surface. The underwater land mass was only 990 feet down at the highest peak.

The nearest land from the discovery is little Salay Comez Island, 1,000 miles off the coast of Chile and 250 miles to the southwest of newly-discovered "Submarine Mountain," whose exact location is 20 degrees South Lat., 114 East Long.—United Press.

FASTBALL CORNER

(Continued from Page 6)

Giant-Rover affair. The former (By the way, so sorry to have called you Abu and Acker in the previous writings. Hope I have got it right now) clouted a three bagger and the latter a double. Pitcher Leo Tavares appeared upset by some decisions by umpire Dick Chung which appeared to him to be cockeyed, and consequently was not to his usual high standard.

Leading most of the way the Giants were only extended in the last inning. They were leading by four runs. Here star first baseman Junior Markar who in emergency played at third, came into prominence, together with Bakar. A mishandled stop was quickly picked up by Junior and thrown to Bakar at first, who made no mistake to put out one of the Rovers. When Rovers had come to only one run behind, Markar again assisted to put the last Rover away. He was at a new position at third base, but acquitted himself remarkably well.

• • •

THIS week's games are: 10.30 a.m. —Canadian/Chinese v. Rovers, followed by H.K. Baseball Club v. Chung Wah; 2.00 p.m.—St. Joseph's v. Giants, followed by Recreio v. Hotshots.

• • •

LADIES and Gentlemen—we are playing for your benefit, so dig deep in, announced President Doc Molthen during last Sunday's games. He was announcing that a collection was to be made. So chic Jennie Hamet (now Mrs Arculli), chaperoned by Vice-President Jimmy Shepherd, went round to do the necessary. It was said that since there was no stand for spectators, there was one way to raise funds for the association. Say what you like, the spectators did not seem to mind, so there!

NOTICE

Christmas Holidays

There will be no issue of the "South China Morning Post" on

Thursday and Friday December 26 and 27

Publication will be resumed on Saturday, December 28.

There will be no issue of "The Hongkong Telegraph" on

Wednesday and Thursday December 25 and 26

Publication will be resumed on Friday, December 27.

WAR CRIME SUSPECTS IN SEAC AREA

Singapore, Dec. 19.

Of 9,000 Japanese arrested in South-east Asia as war crimes suspects, only about 4,500 still are in custody. This is largely due to a new policy of bringing to trial "only the most serious cases," a spokesman for the South-east Asia Land Forces has announced.

Such a policy was adopted, because "it would be impracticable to bring such a number (9,000) to trial in a reasonable time."

Operating in South-east Asia, now, are two war crimes courts in Singapore, two in Hongkong, and one each in Burma, Kuala Lumpur, British North Borneo, and French Indo-China. Dutch courts are also in session in the Netherlands East Indies.

The British war crimes courts have tried 813 accused persons, sentencing 182 to death and 263 to imprisonment.—Associated Press.

CONCENTRATION OF TROOPS IN SCOPLJE CLAIMED IN ATHENS

(Continued from Page 1)

semi-independent Macedonian state under Yugo-Slav guidance which ultimately would become a member of the Yugo-Slav Federation.

Aiding Insurgents

The confidential report dealing with what it called the Yugo-Slav troop concentration at Scoplje, said "obviously the Yugo-Slavs are aiding the Greek insurgents with arms training and evacuation protection."

The report expressed concern over the extension of guerilla control in the Evros region south of the Bulgarian border on the Turkish frontier.

It was reported here that the area controlled by the guerillas started approximately at the bottom of the neck of the western side of the Greek bulge between Bulgaria and Turkey and extended about 85 miles west.

Extensions project south just north of Alexandroupolis, east of Komotini and south-east of Xanthi. British military installations are located at Xanthi and Komotini.

The Greek Army recently expressed satisfaction with "mopping up operations" against the guerillas, and said that the back of the resistance was broken in a five-day battle at Corymbos near the Turkish border, in which it claimed 1,200 guerillas were routed.—Associated Press.

Eight-Hour Battle

Athens, Dec. 20.

Forty guerillas were killed in an eight-hour battle which included hand-to-hand fighting two days ago at the village of Deskati in the Khasia mountains, which lie between Kozane and Trikkala, according to Greek military sources. Successful mopping up operations continue, these sources said.

It was also officially announced that 300 guerillas were killed, 300 wounded and more than 500 captured or surrendered during the last two weeks.

Deskati which was ravaged in early autumn by a strong force of guerrillas was attacked by a band of 600 which captured dominating positions during the night and opened fire with heavy weapons and mortars.

After a bitter eight-hour fight the guerillas were driven back with "heavy losses" and the remnants escaped into nearby wooded area, leaving behind large quantities of automatic weapons.

Thirty-seven guerillas, including six women, were captured in the lower Mount Olympus region and 20 others were beaten on the peninsula extending southwards from Salonika.—Associated Press.

JAP TRAIN DISASTER

Takada, Japan, Dec. 19.

Nine persons were killed and 60 injured when a passenger train ran into snow from an avalanche near a tunnel in the vicinity of Taguchi, Niigata Prefecture, 150 miles northwest of Tokyo. The locomotive and two coaches were derailed.—United Press.

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The Sarawak Controversy

(By "Commentator")

Whenever the name of the "White Rajah of Sarawak" has been mentioned in the many newspaper and magazine articles which have been published over the period of the greater part of a century, there has always been conjured up almost fairy-tale visions of a fascinating people, a fascinating country and a kindly and benevolent ruler. The fact that this legendary little kingdom, as it may well be called, has revered its "White Rajahs" is in itself a tribute to British administration, even if that administration may have been characterised as unorthodox.

When it was recently announced that the country would be taken over by the British Government, it was generally understood that such steps were being taken by the wish of the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants.



ANTHONY BROOKE, Rajah Muda of Sarawak, is now in Hongkong. (Photo: Gainsborough Studio).

It now appears that such is not the case, and there is reason to believe that the people concerned wish to continue along the lines so successfully established by the Brooke Family. It is all the more regrettable therefore, that a distinguished member of a distinguished family should, by order of the British Government, be prevented from visiting people who have reason to respect him. The people themselves have been loyal to British methods of Government established by their "White Rajahs," and it does seem a thousand pities that at this juncture in history, a British Government should take steps which are apparently against the wishes of many of the inhabitants of Sarawak.

There can be only one sensible and democratic solution. The people themselves apparently prefer British traditions and rule as exercised since 1842 by the Brooke family. If the British Government is not satisfied with its representation being in the hands of the British Rajah family, it should first of all let the people concerned decide as to their destiny.

CANADA BACKS RUSSIA IN ATOMIC PLAN

(Continued from Page 1)

only difficulty remaining before the Atomic Energy Commission was the question of the veto regarding sanctions against any violation of control. He said the Canadian proposal allowed time for study, which was asked by Russia.

Dr Oscar Lange (Poland) submitted the resolution that the American proposals be referred to the Commission's Scientific Committee for consideration.

Voting first on the Soviet motion for adjournment the Commission rejected it by ten votes to two, the minority consisting of Russia and Poland.

The Polish resolution was rejected by nine votes to two, with one abstention, General McNaughton explaining that Canada abstained as a mark of conciliation to Poland. Minority votes were again cast by Russia and Poland.

The American proposals as amended by Canada were approved by ten votes to none, with one abstention—Poland, who abstained as a mark of conciliation in reply to Canada.

M. Gromyko had explained before the vote that he would not take part in the voting on the substance of the American proposal: "I am not taking part in this decision and that is why I am not voting yes or no," he said.

The Commission adjourned without fixing the date of the next meeting.—Reuter.

EMBEZZLER SHOT

Manila, Dec. 20.

The morning papers reported that Federico David, 60, supervising auditor at the General Auditor's Office, was shot yesterday by the police allegedly for trying to walk off with a part of 6,000,000 pesos of condemned currency which was being burned.

The papers said that he was shot when he failed to heed a warning to halt by Finance Department guards. A search of his person and portfolio yielded 15,000 condemned notes. David was a member of the committee in charge of burning the currency. He had been with the Finance Department for 20 years.—Press.

INTERNMENT REFLECTIONS

This is the fifth of a short series of verse composed in Shamshuipo Camp during the dark days of imprisonment under the Japanese.

Reflections of Christmas Eve, 1941

"There's no Father Christmas tonight, Sir,"
The sergeant said to me.
"Oh yes there is," I sadly said,
"But not for you and me."
Methought I heard him catch his breath
As overhead there whistled death.

There were millions of men that Christmas;
Millions of men away.
Millions of men unhappily
Thinking of Christmas Day;
No Peace on Earth—Goodwill—for them,
No Star—No Song—No Bethlehem.

Millions of men were waiting,
A sacrifice to pay.
Millions of men were hating
God's image on that day;
Their only signal in the sky
The call from Hell for men to die.

When the harvest of Death's been garnered,
The scroll of Hell complete.
Will righteousness enforce the Peace
Or greed again compete?
I pray that men and women too
Throughout the world will war taboo.

ANON.

January, 1942.

Arab Plan Of Non-Co-Operation Discussed

Jerusalem, Dec. 19.

A plan of non-co-operation with the Palestine Government by Palestine's 1,200,000 Arabs was discussed by the Arab Higher Committee at a two-hour session last night, it was learned from a reliable source.

"Non-co-operation" would be put into action if a number of protests drawn up by the Committee were disregarded by the Palestine Government.

Referring to yesterday's statement in the House of Commons by the Colonial Secretary, Mr Creech-Jones, that the estimated £1,000,000 expenditure on Jewish illegal immigrants camps in Cyprus will be charged to the Palestine Government, the Committee, in a memorandum which will be submitted to the High Commissioner, General Sir Alan Cunningham, protests against charging Arab tax-payers with the costs of "organised large scale Jewish illegal immigration."

The Committee also urged the Palestine Government to hold immediate elections to the Supreme Moslem Council—a body set up under the British mandate for Palestine to deal with Moslem affairs.

Since 1937, when Hajamin El Husseini, the Mufti of Jerusalem, was dismissed from the chairmanship, this council's affairs have been administered by a committee appointed by the Palestine Government.—Reuter.

Idealists, Not Terrorists

Basle, Dec. 19.

There are 15,000 young Jews taking an active part in violence groups in Palestine and part of Haganah is co-operating with them, it was alleged to-day by the American publisher, Mr William B. Ziff, who is attending the Zionist Congress as Revisionist delegate from America.

Mr Ziff said in an interview today that the youths engaged in armed resistance in Palestine were not terrorists but idealists.—Reuter.

EXCLUDED FROM BRITAIN

Vice-President of American League for Free Palestine

London, Dec. 19.

The British Government has decided to exclude Professor Johan Smertenko, Vice-President of the American League for a Free Palestine, from this country for the future. He left yesterday.

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Home Office, Mr G. H. Oliver, announced this in the House of Commons to-day, in reply to a question by Mr W. Nally, Labour Member.

Mr Nally had asked if the Home Secretary was aware that Professor Smertenko was openly financing terrorist organisations in Palestine and whether the Government intended to allow this United States citizen to remain in Britain and carry out his stated intention of forming a branch of his organisation in the United Kingdom.

Mr Oliver replied: "This foreign visitor left this country on December 10 and steps have been taken to exclude him for the future."

He added, in reply to a further question: "It is quite clear we do not regard this man as a very desirable visitor."

Asked if it had been made clear that the Professor's allegations against British troops were quite baseless, Mr Oliver replied that that was a question he could not answer.—Reuter.

JEWISH LEADERS CLASH

Basle, Dec. 19.

Indications that the Jewish leaders meeting here had clashed on fundamental political differences were followed to-night by a report that Dr Chaim Weizmann, World Zionist President, had advised the Political Commission of the Zionist Congress that the Jewish Agency should unconditionally attend the London talks on Palestine.—Reuter.

BURMA'S INDEPENDENCE DEBATE

London, Dec. 20.

The Prime Minister, Mr Attlee, in the House of Commons announced that a representative group of Burmese had been invited to visit London in the near future to discuss revision of the White Paper plan for Burmese self-government.

In a statement angrily attacked by the Opposition leader, Mr Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister said:

"Recent developments in India have led the Burmese people to desire to expedite their own advances to self-government and their leaders have expressed some impatience with the apparently slow development of the White Paper plan.

"In these circumstances His Majesty's Government think that plan merits reconsideration and that the Burmese leaders should be given the fullest opportunity of putting forward all the suggestions which they may wish to make with a view to their discussion."

Mr Churchill dissociated the Conservative Party from the Government plan, declaring: "This haste is appalling, scuttle is the word and the only word that can be applied," an evil process which has gone on in India and which has been attended by disasters to which we are only on the threshold. This unfortunate process is now needlessly extended to Burma," the former Prime Minister said.

Mr Attlee replied: "We believe that Burma will stay in the Empire. We invite them to stay in, but we say we do not compel them to stay."—Associated Press.

Churchill's Interest

Buckingham, Dec. 20.

Mr Churchill dissociated the grilly accused the Labour Government of seeking the "decline and fall of the British Empire", while attacking Mr. Attlee's announcement in the House of Commons that the first steps for Burmese independence were to be taken shortly.

Mr. Churchill admitted that part of his great interest in Burma was due to the fact that his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, had been instrumental in annexing the wealthy Indian province in 1885.

The wartime Premier unleashed a flow of Churchillian rhetoric and vindictives to castigate the Attlee Government which he alleged "is quite unrepresentative of the balance of forces in this country."

"I think it is necessary at the earliest moment to dissociate myself and those who sit with me from the course of action which the Government are taking.....words that have come from the Prime Minister and from the Government are quite unrepresentative of the balance of forces in this country."

Caustically, Mr Churchill concluded: "He (Attlee) has in fact shorn Burma from the British Crown and that at least is a matter of which passing notice should be taken even in this period when we are getting so accustomed and inaugurated to the process of the decline and fall of the British Empire."—United Press.

Amnesty Proclamation

Rangoon, Dec. 20.

The Government of Burma to-day issued a proclamation offering amnesty to U Seinda, the ex-Buddhist priest and "rebel" leader, whose followers have been active in the Arakan division of south-west Burma.

The proclamation urged Seinda and his followers to surrender within one month will all arms and ammunition in their possession.—Reuter.

BELGIAN BANK RATE RISE

London, Dec. 19.

The Belgium Bank rate has been raised from two to two and a half per cent.—Reuter.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW on 845 kc from 12.30—1.15 p.m., 6.30—7.30 p.m., 9—11 p.m., also 9.52 mg. 6.30 Variety; 7 London Relay: News; 7.15 Studio: "See Tee's" Soccer Commentary; 7.25 Interlude; 7.30 Studio: "Unit Requests."—New Long Calling Signals & Radar Servicing, Kaitack; 8 Orchestral Favourites; 8.30 London Relay: "Vic Oliver Introduces"; 9 London Relay: News; 9.05 "Bitter Sweet"—Noel Coward's Popular Musical Play; 10.05 Music for Dancing; 11 Close Down.

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